

BURY ST EDMUNDS COUNTY UPPER SCHOOL

YEAR 9



Welcome Newsletter for September 2010



County Upper School
Beeton's Way
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP32 6RF
July 2010

Dear Parents,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and your child to the County Upper School community. Many of you know us already, but for some this is the beginning of what we hope will be three, four or five years of a happy and fruitful collaboration. As has been explained today, your first point of contact here is your son or daughter's form tutor. The team of ninth year tutors is led by Mrs J. Bradbury, and she is always happy to help with any problems or queries. Her assistant, Mrs L. Kennedy, my Deputy, Mr S Willis and I are also available, normally within the hour, to assist you. Another point of contact is our regular newsletter. These come out every week, always on a Friday, and they will be numbered so that you can note if you have missed one in the series. This newsletter "The County Courier" is in addition to the "The Accolade" which you have been seeing each month. Both publications go onto the school website (www.countyupper.suffolk.sch.uk) and this can be particularly useful if your child fails to give you "The County Courier" or if you would like to see the full colour edition of "The Accolade".

Uniform

The "Welcome" booklet issued to your child today contains all the information on uniform regulations.

Uniform previously ordered will be available for collection from the school's Community Lounge on Wednesday 25th August from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm on both days.

FOR SALE

Wednesday 25th August

from

9.00am - 6.00pm

here at school

Buses and Cycles

As the "Welcome" booklet states Mr McWilliam our Student Support Co-ordinator will help with travel queries. Those students entitled to a bus pass have been given details today. New cycle racks for students have been installed at the back of the new Visual Arts Centre.

PTA

Our Parent Teacher Association is a strong one and you are warmly invited to meet the committee for coffee and cakes on

Thursday 30th September at 7.30pm

The study of German in Year 9

To avoid any confusion, parents are advised that in order to study German in Year 9 students are withdrawn from one each of the three weekly lessons of Design Technology, French and PE.

Photographs/Explore Card

All Year 9 Students will be photographed individually on the first morning, Thursday 2nd September. Students will also be given the opportunity to have a photograph taken with their siblings on this morning. In recent years, Suffolk County Council has organised a separate photograph to be used as part of its Explore Card scheme. Many students use them to offset transport costs. We have been advised by the county council that due to the budgetary situation, these photographs will not now be taken. However, if parents obtain a photo and want the card, we will still process them.

Lunchtime Arrangements

It is our expectation that students will stay on site at lunchtime and either bring a packed lunch or buy their lunch here. There is an extensive programme of extra curricular activities at lunchtime as well as places to study and socialise with friends. Only students whose home address enables them to go home for lunch are allowed to do so. If parents insist on their children going home, they must write to Mrs C. Bennett, Head's PA, enclosing a passport sized photograph. This will enable the children to be issued with a lunch pass which must be shown daily to the senior member of staff on duty at the most appropriate gate. Parents should note their pass only covers students going home and that their children become their responsibility if they opt for this lunchtime arrangement.

Absence

If your child is absent, you should ring Mr McWilliam, Student Support Co-Ordinator on his dedicated line: 01284 763638.

Holidays

Parents are urged not to take term time holidays during their children's Upper School careers when all the work is in modules leading to public examinations.

I hope that your child enjoyed his/her "first day" at County Upper today. The information received today along with the school prospectus should make most things clear. However please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any queries. Rest assured that we shall begin, and continue, to do all we can to make your child's education here fulfilling and successful.

Yours sincerely

Mrs V Neale
Headteacher

You are warmly invited to a

YEAR 9 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING

to be held on

**Thursday 16th September
at 7.30 pm**

The chance to collect information on the key features and dates of the year and to discuss how school and parents can work together to assist children as they study.

