



October 2009

Dear Parents

Please find enclosed a copy of the **2008-9 Annual Report** of the whole of the JAGS charity and Community Enterprises. I trust that you will enjoy reading it. We are also enclosing a flyer for our forthcoming **Art Fair** (21 & 22 November) and for the **Parents Association Quiz** (28 November). The latest school magazine was sent home with your daughter this week and we hope you have enjoyed reading it.

As you may be aware, we are gradually moving away from printed letters and posted items (a decision made even before the postal service ceased to function effectively in South London) to a practical and manageable **electronic communication** system. Thank you to all those parents who have provided us with preferred email contact addresses. During the half-term break we will send out a test email to all those parents who have provided us with a contact email address. The email address from which we will be sending emails to you is parents@jags.org.uk. Please ensure that this email address is not blocked by your spam filter and do not reply to this email address. It is not monitored for incoming mail. Not only are we endeavouring to put as much up-to-date information as possible on our website, both on the news pages and in the parents' sub-section, (*id letters* and password *holst hall*) but we are also in the midst of setting up a new service for parents with a personal mail box for each. We plan to begin testing this early in 2010. Our intention is that by the start of next academic year, school reports and all letters to parents will be sent to these individual accounts as pdf files, unless you have requested to receive hard copies in the post. We also hope to be able to provide you with more regular information about your daughter's progress, behaviour and attendance in the same way.

We will be holding one of our regular '**Meet the Governors**' evenings on Tuesday 24 November 2009 in the Holst Hall. This is an opportunity for parents to get to know the Governors better and to hear about their plans for the future of the whole school. The evening will begin with a formal presentation in response to questions raised in advance, followed by an open discussion and a chance to talk more informally over refreshments. To raise questions and to confirm attendance please visit the 'Meet the Governors' page on our website at www.jags.org.uk/governance_and_policies/meet_governors/.

The Art Department have produced two new and very beautiful **Greetings Cards** for sale in aid of our Bursary Fund. They are available in packs of five and the order form is on the JAGS website. Cards will also be on sale at forthcoming school functions.

The JPA (Parents' Association) has organised an **Evening of Christmas Shopping** from 7.30-9.30 p.m. in the Holst Hall on Monday 30 November. A variety of stalls will be there and the occasion will offer a chance to meet the Committee, Class Reps and other parents and to enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles. Full details are on our website.

Please do also look at our website www.jags.org.uk to read about all the latest achievements and adventures here at JAGS. We have had a very busy half-term and many girls and staff have made outstanding contributions to the life of the school and the wider community. Congratulations to all of them. We have a number of school trips taking place during the half-term break, to Barcelona and Montpellier and a Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver expedition. Our trip to Cern, with the Physics department, follows in November. We wish them all a happy and successful time. Full details of our staff, examination results, leavers' destinations, curriculum, school policies, music, sports and other events are on the website. Look out, too, for details of our forthcoming concerts and the senior plays - we have joint productions at both JAGS and Dulwich College.

We have been alerted to a dangerous situation in Greendale in the mornings before school. Apparently parents are stopping their cars directly outside the JAPS gate, causing other drivers to halt in the hatched yellow box area at the junction, blocking the road and creating danger. Please could you drive further into Greendale in order to drop off your daughter. The area immediately around the school is very crowded with traffic and great caution is needed.

We have had to write a large number of letters to parents already this term about the unsuitability of their daughter's **school uniform**. If your daughter's skirt no longer fits her, please make sure that she buys a new or second-hand one that does. It is unacceptable for girls to be in school with skirts which are far too short, or which have to be unzipped and pulled down around the hips in order to appear a decent length. Torn skirts and jumpers are not permissible. Shoes and coats must conform to the specifications on the uniform list. Details about the new school uniform suppliers will be available soon, but please rest assured that the current uniform will be able to be worn for several years to come.

I trust that you and your daughters will enjoy a restful and refreshing half-term break. Thank you for all your support.

Yours sincerely

