



# High March

High March School, Ledborough Lane, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire HP9 2PZ

Headmistress: Mrs S.J. Clifford, B.Ed. Hons. (Oxon) M.A. (London)

28, March 2019

Dear Parents,

## **School Fees 2019/2020**

At the recent Governing Board Finance Sub-Committee Meeting a review was undertaken of the level of fees for the academic year 2019/2020 in order to support continued investment in outstanding teaching and educational facilities in accordance with the School's strategic development plan.

At High March, we are privileged to employ a large number of experienced, qualified and dedicated staff who are pivotal to the exceptional academic results we achieve year after year. This year, our Year 6 qualification rate in the County 11+ examinations was approximately 70% which once again compares very favourably with the County rate of approximately 30%. Furthermore, this year an impressive nine scholarships have been awarded to Year 6 pupils by major independent senior schools. This superb set of results could not have been achieved in a non-selective school such as High March without staff of such high calibre. Staff salaries constitute our major expenditure comprising around two thirds of our total recurrent costs. We remain totally committed to maintaining at High March the excellence of the teaching, learning and pastoral care, all of which were lauded in our last ISI Inspection. We shall once again this year, in order to thank our staff for their commitment, give priority to increasing staff salaries, notwithstanding significantly increased staff pension, regulatory compliance and insurance costs. In the coming academic year, employers' contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme - membership of and contribution to which is a key factor in teacher recruitment and retention - will increase by 43%. Whilst the Government will fund this huge increase in contributions next academic year for maintained schools, independent schools must fund this themselves.

Mindful of the need to continue to offer added value and of the cost of childcare, Early Birds, After School Care, After School Clubs run by High March staff and Supervised Prep will remain on offer free of charge. We believe that we are one of the only independent schools in the local area offering such extensive free pre and post School childcare. In addition, our rich and varied Activity Programme has expanded even further to offer the children a wealth of activities and experiences outside the curriculum with over 30 different clubs on offer, gratis.

Investment into the fabric of the School will continue over the coming year into the infrastructure of the School premises. ICT equipment, both hardware and software, will continue to be upgraded and improved, as part of our rolling programme of investment in technology.

The termly fees with effect from 1 September 2019 will be:

- Upper Nursery (5 mornings) £ 1,950
- Reception £ 3,985
- Year 1 £ 4,125
- Year 2 £ 4,495
- Years 3 – 6 £ 5,160

Fees for Music, Speech and Drama and other optional subjects are available on the website and on request.

### **Scholarships**

High March continues to offer the Robert Anderson (academic) and Del Anderson (academic and poetry) Open Scholarships endowed in memory of our Grandparents. In addition, the Anderson Family Drama and Music Open Scholarships recognise and celebrate the success of the Performing Arts at High March.

### **Notice**

Parents are reminded that, in accordance with IAPS schools' standard practice, the School's Regulations provide that fees are due on or before the first day of term and that a full term's notice in writing, to run from no later than the first day of term, must be given for the withdrawal of a child or the discontinuance of any optional subject, failing which fees will be charged in lieu of the required notice. We reserve the right to charge an administration fee of £75 to all accounts remaining unpaid after the end of the first week of term. If exceptional circumstances exist which prevent payment of fees being made by the due date, parents must contact the Financial Officer prior to the first day of term.

### **Bursaries**

We recognise that the current economic and political climate remains challenging to parents making sacrifices to ensure that their children receive the best possible independent education. As always, we will be pleased to hear from any parent who wishes to consult the Governors about genuine problems which arise in connection with their payment of fees as we do offer a limited number of means-tested bursaries.

With our warmest wishes for a happy and restful Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely,



**Belinda Avery**

**Michael Chapples**

**For and on behalf of the Governing Board of High March School**