

July 2007

Dear Parents

The Summer Term at Colfe's has been as busy and crowded as ever, not least in terms of music and sport. It is also the season of public examinations, of course, and we look forward to the results in August.

The wettest June for some years has had an inevitable impact on the **cricket** fixture list. Fortunately the match between the School and the Leathersellers' Company was not affected by rain and the School secured victory in the dying minutes of the game. Girls' **rounders** teams have done remarkably well this year also, frequently winning against schools in which girls are more numerous.

Foremost amongst the individual sporting success stories has been the recent selection of **Conor Henderson** (Year 10) for the England U17 football team. This is a fantastic achievement, in view of the intense competition at this level. Conor plays regularly for the Arsenal Academy in his year group. I am equally pleased to report that **Clare Rafferty** has won a full scholarship to Loughborough University which will enable her to continue playing national football for the England Women's team.

This term's **Summer Concert** was, *inter alia*, an opportunity to say farewell to our U6th musicians, so many of who have performed on so many occasions over the last seven years. **Kate Ferman, Dan Murdoch, Adam Leaver, Dilraj Bansal, Islay Newnham, Daryl Armstrong** and **James Nathan** have all, in their very different ways, brought something special to the cultural life of the school during their time with us and we thank them.

We also say goodbye to a number of teaching colleagues and wish them well for the future: **Mr Derek Shelbrooke** will be retiring after more than three decades at Colfe's, having previously been Head of Geography and, more recently, responsible for university entry and public examinations; **Mr Paul Kilbride** will take over as Head of Sixth Form at St Leonard's-Mayfield School in September; **Miss Hayley Briggs** will take over as Head of Geography at Greenacre School for Girls; and **Miss Jennifer Toulson** will be moving to a post of responsibility at Wallington High School next year. I should add that **Mr John Gallagher** will be handing over responsibility for Boys' Games to Mr Nick Miller when he takes over as Head of Colfe's Prep School in September.

We wish them all well and thank them for what they have accomplished at Colfe's during their time with us.

The main physical change to the site in the next six months will be the construction of our **new maintenance building** in the corner of the field adjacent to the school shop. This building will be of interest on account of its sustainability, (it will have, for example, a *sedum* roof,) and our architect, Hans Haenlein, will be talking to the Sixth Form about sustainable building, as part of the General Studies programme. I hope to be in touch with parents next term to brief them about our longer term building plans.

I hope, in conclusion, that all pupils and parents will have a fulfilling and enjoyable summer break. I look forward to seeing the pupils back in school on Monday, 3rd September.

Yours sincerely

Richard F Russell