

Winchester College Society

Parents' News

Spring Term (Common Time) 2009

'Win Coll Soc' came into being in March 2007 with a view to providing an umbrella organisation for all constituent members of the Wiccamaical family – of which Parents, whether past or present, are very much a part. So, to all parents, whether new this year or existing, I continue to extend a very warm welcome indeed.

We decided, having consulted with one or two of 2007's new parents, that a relatively light-hearted Newsletter might be a useful accessory for Parents at the beginning of each term – the idea being to pick out a few key points that we feel may be of particular interest or relevance to you for the coming term. The School's website (www.winchestercollege.co.uk) should provide you with an up-to-date Diary of events. This 'first edition' is intended to serve merely as a prelude for what should follow in future. We will be working on a few more ideas that we hope will appeal to you, which can be covered in Cloister Time's Newsletter. In the meantime, I hope that you and your sons enjoy the rest of what the current term has to offer.

David Fellowes – Director

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LOOKING BACK

We started the academic year with a couple of new and apparently well received events involving parents, both arising in Short Half 2008:

- Last October, Win Coll Soc hosted a Drinks Reception for Years 1 & 2 Parents in The Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn, in London. This event is designed to encourage you to get to know each other from almost the very beginning of your son's time at Win Coll ('Induction Day' in early September hardly being the moment for any serious socialising, after all!), and by inviting the previous year's crop of new parents, those 'older hands' were able to pass on a few tips, whilst all were able to meet some leading players from Common Room.
- On the last day of Short Half, we also invited all parents to join us from 4.30pm for a glass of 'something warm' whilst enjoying 'Illumina' – the commemorative bonfire, the flickering candles around Meads Wall and Chapel Choir's delightful fest of Christmas carols sung under the arches beneath 'Musa'. Not even the rain could dampen the spirit and the School's Charity Society, run by the boys themselves, was delighted to find just over £680 in their buckets by the end of the evening - thank you!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

I would like to draw your attention to some special dates in 2009 for your diaries:

- 27th May – a Garden Party from 7.00pm to 8.15pm for Years 3 & 4 Parents (to coincide with the end of Leave-Out): to be held in the Headmaster's Garden (or, in the event of unfavourable weather, just over Kingsgate Road in War Cloister). There will be a Service of Compline, sung by Chapel Choir in Chapel, for those who wish to attend (with or without your son).
- 30th May – a Summer Buffet Supper at Deans Court, Wimborne for all members of Win Coll Soc, including parents, by kind permission of Sir Michael Hanham Bt, DFC and his son, William, both OWS. Invitations will be issued to all living in the Wiltshire – Dorset area.
- 13th June – Winchester Day: Win Coll Soc will have a small tent along Meads Path, offering morning coffee and afternoon tea.
- 27th June – Domum celebrations for 5th Year Parents: a Champagne Reception in the Warden's Garden, attended by Dons, Leavers and their Parents. Whilst Leavers are dined out by their Dons in College Hall, Win Coll Soc, with the help of the Housedons and their spouses, will entertain Parents to a Domum Supper in a marquee on Meads.
- 4th July – Summer Ball on Meads: about which I have already written to you. I do hope that you can support this wonderful evening, which only takes place every other year.
- 30th August – Furley's 150th Anniversary Celebrations: 10.30am Chapel Service, followed by a Drinks Reception on Kingsgate Park (for those with Furleyite connections only, of course!).
- 13th October – Reception in Lincoln's Inn for 2009's 1st and 2nd Year Parents.
- 11th December – Illumina.