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**NEWSLETTER 21st September 2018**

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| **Dear Parents**  **Upcoming Events**  We are looking forward to the next two events we have for parents.  **Phonics Workshop- 26th September-4.30pm**  **Phonics Workshop- 27th September-4.30pm**  **What is behind the trend for co-ed?**  I read, with interest, an article in the newspaper, this week, about single sex versus co- educational independent schools. Some of the points made offered a balance of opinion, including some interesting ideas below.  Single-sex education is less in vogue than it was 60 years ago, when many schools preferred to separate the sexes. Today only 18% of private schools are single sex which is down from 21.4% in 2010, according to the ISC, and more of these are all girls’ schools.  Whilst some leading schools are still single-sex, many other top performing schools are mixed.  Some boys’ schools that welcomed girls in the sixth form have been emboldened to welcome girls throughout. Much of this trend, it has been suggested, is motivated by the balance sheet, as a single sex school is ruling out half of your potential market.  Co-ed schools are convenient for working parents with children of both sexes.  Classes begin to stretch children’s physical ability by introducing a range of yoga moves which improve their balance, flexibility and co-ordination. Balancing poses help children to focus their mind and increase their concentration.  We look forward to our Full Day and Reception classes starting YogaBugs on Monday.  **Reception Class News**  The Reception children have settled in very well to the new term, enjoying every activity, especially PE. Every Friday morning, we celebrate the end of the week with ‘Love and Light.’ Every week, parents will be invited to join us to share this experience. This will commence next Friday 28th.  **Why exercise is so important for children**  Physical activity for children is important for a wide variety of reasons. It helps to improve balance and coordination skills, assist in the development of gross and fine motor skills and can improve concentration at school. Exercise is a vital component of any child’s development-laying the foundations for a healthy life. | Single sex schools are rare outside of the UK, so families from abroad may be more likely to seek mixed schools.  Whilst girls may perform slightly better at single sex schools, research is not definitive.  Girls’ schools have been criticised for building a hothouse academic environment, while boys’ schools, say some critics, have an unhealthy aggressive culture.  To many, a co-education just feels more ‘modern’ and parents are no longer wishing to replicate their own school experience. It has been argued that co-ed schools offer better preparation for real life.  I believe that, at the end of the day, the decisions one makes as parents is driven by a number of factors, and certainly in our area, the choice for co- educational schools is more limited. Interesting viewpoints, none the less.  **Curriculum News from Miss Belzer**  YogaBugs follows a fun and structured approach to introduce children to yoga poses. The format is centred around stories and also includes songs and nursery rhymes.  Music and fun games are introduced to add variety to classes and encourage children to work together. Children are encouraged to express their creative imagination and develop their self-esteem in a safe environment. |

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

With best wishes



**Mrs Sylvester**

**Proprietor**

**Mr B. Berkery**