

ST BEES SCHOOL TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

MANAGEMENT CENTRE HAS RE-OPENED!

ISSUE 2: JULY 2016

Welcome to the second Trustees newsletter

We want to keep you informed and involved in the future of St Bees School. In the following pages, you can read about progress towards our stated priorities. We welcome any questions, suggestions and thoughts, so please do stay in touch via the Trustees or the office team.

School contact details:

Office: Taina Booth & Wendy Dootson

Phone: 01946 828000

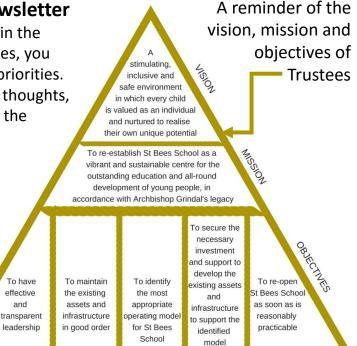
Email: mailbox@stbeesschool.co.uk

Did you know?

We have re-designed the website. Keep in touch with news & events.

Please visit:

www.stbeesschool.co.uk



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: PUBLIC DROP IN ON SATURDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

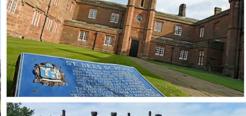
We hope the community, public and OSBs will take this opportunity to visit the school and meet with the Trustees to find out more about the progress and plans to bring back education and sustain the site. See how we are maintaining the fabric by making good use of the Business Management Centre, sports facilities, theatre, golf course and more, and plan to introduce new facilities such as a nursery later in the year.

and

We aim to hold brainstorming sessions to focus on how the community and OSBs feel we can use the buildings to best effect during this interim period, and to ask for volunteers to support viable projects.

This date coincides with the OSB St Beghians' Day. Also on the same day, The Parish Council is holding an event to showcase "St Bees - What Goes On" from 2-6pm in the Memorial Hall. Please do join us to make this a really positive event in the community.



















Maintenance of Existing Assets and Infrastructure:

Life is slowly returning to parts of the school site, while we work on our mission to re-establish education here. Maintenance to essential systems such as boilers, buildings and IT equipment continues where necessary. It is a big step forward to have Sandy Rogers managing facilities. He is working through a challenging programme to keep assets in good condition.

Main developments have been:

- A comprehensive audit of the school's land and assets has taken place, to ensure that the Charity can deal with any queries and claims efficiently, and maximise the revenue where due.
- Agreement reached with the Golf Club, and a Green keeper (Craig) has been appointed.
- Tenants have been found for the Headmaster's residence and part of School House.
- We have re-opened the Business Management Centre.
- We have taken over management of the Swimming Pool, and resumed hire of sports facilities.
- Rosehill Theatre is using the Memorial Hall as a venue for their events this summer.
- A successful Spring Fest, and the return of Summer Fest between 1 5th August and 15 19th
 August.
- Trustees are in talks with other parties to allow residential hire over the summer months.
- A plan to open a nursery in the Prep School (School House) in September.

While we work to re-establish education on the site, we want to find ways to make use of the facilities to benefit the community. We welcome your suggestions.

For example, we have considered opening the school library as a study centre and resource for a couple of afternoons and e.g. Saturday morning each week. To do this, we would need volunteers to support the existing staff and Trustees. If you would be interested in seeing this as a study resource and have a few hours to give, please email mailbox@stbeesschool.co.uk or call on 01946 828000.



During a recent Board meeting of the Trustees, it was a joy to look out and see the pitches full of children taking part in local tournaments. It keeps life in the school, and hire of facilities helps to buy time to explore the best long term outcome for St Bees School. You can make a big difference just by spreading the word on what is available to hire and use. Read on to find out more....

Income generation to sustain school site:

Whitelaw Building: We were delighted to open the doors to the Whitelaw Building again in April, with the re-launch of the Business Management Centre as a meeting and conference venue. It is encouraging to see bookings grow steadily, and this will be an important income stream to support maintenance of the school's infrastructure. In order to boost













use over the quieter summer months; there is a special offer of 20% off normal rates during July and August. With capacity from 8 – 80, including meeting and function rooms, and an auditorium, it can be used for a range of business needs. Contact Jane or Bev on 01946 828010 or email bmc@stbeesschool.co.uk for more information or to arrange a visit or booking.







ST BEES BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CENTRE & CONFERENCE VENUE

Perfect location for meetings, conferences & team building events.
All levels of catering available. Access friendly. Free parking.
Additional facilities (sports & accommodation) also available to book.

MEETING, SEMINAR & FUNCTION ROOMS PLUS LARGE AUDITORIUM: CAPACITY FROM 8 TO 80

Talk to our dedicated conference team, who are there to ensure all your needs are catered for. Call Bev and Jane on:







ST BEES BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CENTRE

JULY & AUGUST 2016 - ROOM HIRE PRICE LIST

| MEETING ROOM | CAPACITY | FULL DAY | HALF DAY |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| Meeting Room | 8 | £48 | £32 |
| Seminar Room | 22 | £112 | £64 |
| Function Room | 50 | £180 | £100 |
| Auditorium | 80* | £200 | £120 |
| IT Room 1 | 27** | £160 | £88 |
| IT Room 2 | 20** | £120 | £64 |
| Video Conference F | acilities: | £120 | £80 |
| Phone Conference | Facilities: | £40 | £24 |

* Standard capacity 63 - expands to 80 with additional seating ** Number of IT Workstations available

CATERING OPTIONS

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits: Unlimited per day £4.00pp (half day £2.50pp)

Menu 1 Selection of sandwiches & crisps (ham, turkey, cheese, egg mayonnaise) £3.25

Menu 2 Menu 1 + selection of fruit & cakes £4.20

Menu 3 Menu 1 + sausage rolls, vol-au-vents & quiche £5.95

Menu 4 Menu 2 + Cajun Chicken, pizza, pickles, samosas. Fresh fruit & homemade cake OR gateau & trifle £7.50

Please note prices exclude VAT. Other food options are available. Vegetarian options available. Please advise of dietary requirements. Orders may be placed for extra participants on the day, before 9am

> Pool Party Hire 12.30-2.30 pm

Swimming Pool & Sports Facilities:

Family Fun Time 10.30-12.30 am

We are delighted that Wayne Rudd, an experienced personal trainer and swimming instructor, is now managing the pool facility for us. Email swimming@stbeessschool.co.uk or call 01946 828094 to discuss hire or use of the pool. Check out the holiday timetable below. It is also on our new Facebook page. Please note some details may change as Wayne develops the schedule, and Facebook is the best place to keep up to date. Please click link below

to see latest changes and news. www.facebook.com/stbeesschoolsportscentre/



St Bees School Swimming Pool - School Holiday Timetable 2016

| Monday | Family Fun Time 10.30-12.00 am | Adults Only 12.00-1.00 pm | General Swimming 1.00-2.30 pm | Swimming Lessons 4.00-6.00 pm | Seascale Club (TBC) 7.00-8.00 pm | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday | Family Fun Time 10.30-12.00 am | Adults Only 12.00-1.00 pm | General Swimming 1.00-2.30 pm | Swimming Lessons 4.00-6.00 pm | Ladies Only 7.00-8.00 pm | |
| Wednesday | Family Fun Time 10.30-12.00 am | Adults Only 12.00-1.00 pm | General Swimming 1.00-2.30 pm | Swimming Lessons 4.00-6.00 pm | Adults only 7.00-8.00 pm | Cumbria Diving Club (TBC) 8.00-9.30 pm |
| Thursday | Family Fun Time 10.30-12.00 am | Adults Only 12.00-1.00 pm | General Swimming 1.00-2.30 pm | Swimming Lessons 4.00-6.00 pm | Ladies Only 7.00-8.00 pm | |
| Friday | Family Fun Time 10.30-12.00 am | Adults Only 12.00-1.00 pm | General Swimming 1.00-2.30 pm | Swimming Lessons 4.00-5.30 pm | General Swim 5.30-6.30 pm | |
| Saturday | turday Family Fun Time 10.30-12.30 am | | Pool Party Hire 12.30-2.30 pm | | | |











Family fun swims, pool parties and swimming lessons:

The timetable will develop as more bookings are confirmed, and Wayne will ensure that this facility is of maximum benefit to the community. Let him know if you have any suggestions. Talk to him about booking blocks of swimming lessons, using for pool parties, and family fun. Contact Wayne on 01946 828094. We are also looking for a swimming instructor and lifeguard. Thank you.

You can also contact <u>lettings@stbeesschool.co.uk</u> to hire other sports facilities, either for one-off usage, or for block bookings. Taina Booth will be happy to help with any enquiries on 01946 828000.

Swimming Pool and Sports Facilities Prices:

| Swimming Pool Prices | Price | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Adult swimming | £4.00 | |
| Junior swimming | £3.10 | (under 3s go free) |
| Concession swimming | £3.10 | |
| Family | £12.00 | (2 adults & 2 children) |
| Swimming Lessons | £45.00 | (blocks of 10) |
| Pool party with inflatable | £100.00 | |
| Pool party with floats | £80.00 | |

| Sports Hire Costs | Hourly | Block of 10 weeks |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Sports Hall | £30 +vat | £300 incl vat |
| Squash Court | £10 incl vat | £100 incl vat |
| Tennis/court | £10 incl vat | £75 for yearly family pass |
| Eton 5's -3 courts | £10 incl vat | £100 incl vat |
| Cricket nets - 2 sets | £10 incl vat | £100 incl vat |

Sports Hall includes use for netball, badminton, basketball, 5 a-side football and more



Summerfest:

Summerfest is back to provide support for families this summer. A great way to combine childcare with lots of fun activities. Places are now getting booked up for the 1st week August, and week of 15-19th, so please contact Taina at mailbox@stbeesschool.co.uk to reserve places. You can book a shorter period if required.

If you are viewing this online, you can see further information by <u>clicking</u> <u>here</u>. Alternatively, just visit the school website. <u>www.stbeesschool.co.uk</u>





St Bees Golf Club:

This is an important amenity for the community, and we are very keen for it to be enjoyed by both locals and visitors alike. Our aim is to help the team at the club to increase membership numbers, to ensure that this integral part of the village and former school facility is here for many future generations to enjoy. We are delighted to have appointed Craig Morrison as Green Keeper. We hope all those who enjoy golf (whether as single figure handicappers or Sunday morning dabblers!) will make use of the facilities. There are competitive membership packages, as well as a Green Fees "honesty box" system for occasional play.

Visit <u>www.stbeesgolfclub.co.uk</u> for more details (website being updated soon), and if you would like to hire the club facilities for a function, please contact the bar manager.

St Bees School Archive:

Importance of the Archive:

Following the notice of the school's closure in March 2015, there have been a number of enquiries about the fate of the school archives. The archives are an important part of the school's heritage and, to some extent, of the village's history. Many of the items have been donated to the school over the generations by former pupils, and to safeguard this important asset the archives in their entirety have become the possessions of the Old St Beghian Society to prevent their dispersal or loss. It is hoped to hold at least one exhibition of archive material in the school during the summer.

What is the Archive?

In general terms the archive comprises paper documents, both ancient and modern, of every description, photographs, framed and unframed, cups and trophies, paintings, old school clothing from different eras; in fact, memorabilia of all kinds. The opportunity was also taken of acquiring ownership of the furnishings and memorials in the school chapel, and the seats on the terrace with their presentation inscriptions. The OSBs would like to thank all those involved in this considerable task.

Preservation and Location of the Archive:

Most of the paper documents acquired are on long-term loan in the Whitehaven Records Office. This ensures they will be properly catalogued and professionally conserved. Other than this, and excepting the sale at auction of some of the pictures in the teachers' common room to raise much-needed funds for the Society, the rest of the material is presently held in secure storage until the future becomes clearer. In the meantime, the archivist welcomes any requests for information. Please contact Dr AJ Reeve on tony@ajhreeve.plus.com or tel. 01946 822472.

PRESERVING ST BEES SCHOOL ARCHIVE









Trustees and Management Team



A note about the Board of Trustees and Staff:

When forming the new Board, we wanted to introduce a good mix of skills to take plans forward productively for a sustainable future. We now have educationalists, a lawyer, property experts, business strategists, marketing specialists and more, all working towards the same goal. The website will soon contain more information on this, and will be updated regularly. Since our last newsletter, Kate Wilson has joined the Board to add marketing and communication skills, and Robin Lacey brings considerable educational experience, which is so important in considering options for the future.

We are also delighted that staff who worked for the school before have been dedicated enough to commit to moving forward with the new Board of Trustees. Their commitment, existing knowledge, and flexibility are making a very real difference to the speed with which we have been able to make progress in opening up facilities and bringing some life back to the site. This is very much appreciated by us as Trustees, but we know it has also reassured the wider community. We're making progress together! Thank you again!

Call for expressions of interest in future of St Bees School, West Coast Cumbria.

St Bees School, an independent boarding school with 432 years of history, temporarily closed its doors in June 2015. A new Board of Trustees has been established since the closure, and they have successfully secured a solid financial position as a closed school. Further, the school assets (including management centre, swimming pool, gym and pitches) are increasingly being used to generate income, strengthening this position further. This gives the Trustees the basis to actively seek a sound and enduring model for the resurrection of education on the site.



To this end, a vision and mission statement has been developed. The Trustees would welcome expressions of interest from parties who can align with this, and who have the capability of collaborating on a proposal to see education return to the St Bees site. A more detailed RFP style document is available to interested parties - deadline for RFP requests is Monday 16th May 2016. In the first instance, please visit the website for further information, and contact Tom Kelly via email: Website: www.stbeesschool.co.uk. (Email: tom.kelly@stbeesschool.co.uk (Clerk to the Trustees)







Update on Potential Models of Education:

Archbishop Grindal was very clear in his vision when he left money to establish St Bees School. It was to educate children in and from (what is now) West Cumbria, and he entrusted delivery of this to a group of Trustees. 433 years later, a new group of Trustees has been assembled in the wake of the school's closure and our guiding principle is Archbishop Grindal's original vision. It is our commitment to do everything possible to resurrect education on the St Bees' site, and to ensure that any model is sustainable for the long term. That is the big "WHAT" we intend to do.

"HOW" we do that is not yet crystal clear, but various options are being examined closely. We placed an advert in the Times Educational Supplement recently (see top of page) asking for expressions of interest in the school site as an educational establishment. We have had several positive leads to add to our list for future discussions. This fulfils another commitment that we have made amongst ourselves as a Board. We will leave no stone unturned to find a solution and we will account to all interested parties for our actions when the time comes. By their nature, commercial discussions regarding possible models for the future have a confidentiality about them that we must respect. However, we want to share all that we can with you, and what we can say is that options of various types are being considered, and it is possible that a blend of models may be the solution:

- a school funded by the State out of Local Authority control i.e. a Free school
- a school under the umbrella of a Multi Academy Trust
- that St Bees site becomes a "Campus" for another school or for further education
- an Independent school again

We are at the start of the effort to restore education and it will be a long process. We have to test and ensure that what is developed is robust and fit for purpose - our determination is to see another 432 years of education at St Bees! You have heard elsewhere in this second Newsletter that our task of making the School site financially viable is going well. That gives us the platform to turn our attention to the educational side.

In conclusion, we cannot guarantee to anyone that we will be successful in what we are trying to achieve. But what we can guarantee is we will do <u>everything</u> we can, look at all possible angles and ultimately confer with and explain to everyone who has an interest what we think. We aim to be as transparent as possible. Our passion for St Bees School is undiminished following last year's events. It is important to note that the financial position is secure, and strengthening which is very positive in itself.

We are all amazed at the continued goodwill St Bees School inspires, and we set about our task with optimism and hope. We would love to have the opportunity to talk with you in more detail on Saturday 24th September, and hope you will join us then. Thank you so much for your feedback, and continued support.



St Bees School Wood Lane St Bees CA27 ODS T: 01946 828000

E: mailbox@stbeesschool.co.uk

Polite reminder about the grounds of St Bees School:

The school grounds are private property, and use of them is for school business.

However, if you are on them and walking your dog, the dog(s) must be kept on a lead at all times. Children play in the area, and from both a hygiene and safety perspective this is an important rule to respect. Thank you.

Visit the school website: www.stbeesschool.co.uk

Visit the St Beghian Society Website: www.st-beghian-society.co.uk

