

26 May 2009

Dear Parent,

By now you will have heard from your Chairman that St David's and St James' charities are to merge. I know, for many parents, this was not the desired out-come and we, as St James', would like to do all we can to ensure that your daughters and sons find the school best suited to them.

Again, in an ideal world, none of this would have been necessary, but the falling numbers at St David's did mean that major changes were inevitable.

As you will have been told, our immediate intention is to retain junior boys' and junior girls' schools on the site. We would move our senior boys to Ashford from Twickenham in September 2010. Thus we would be creating a mirror of our schools at Olympia, where they have all-through education for girls and a junior boys' school.

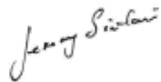
St James' problem is in many ways the reverse of St David's. We have increasing numbers and little space, but where at all possible, we will offer places for your senior girls at Olympia. I know some parents have already visited us and enrolled your daughters. A special School in Action morning has been arranged for the senior girls on Monday 1st June at 11am at St James' Senior Girls' School, Earsby Street, London, W14 8SH. St Catherine's, whom we know well, as they are our close neighbours at Twickenham, would also like to offer the opportunity for senior girls to join them. (www.stcatherineschool.co.uk)

As far as the junior children are concerned, we are in your hands. We would like as many as possible to stay and we would welcome them all. However you will want to know what sort of junior education we are offering. On Tuesday 2nd June at 6.30 pm, all the St James Heads, my deputy chairman and I will be coming to St David's to meet parents, to outline our plans and respond to any questions you might have. In addition, a special junior open morning has been arranged for Thursday 4th June at 10.30 am for St David's parents and children to visit us at Olympia. Our junior school principal, Paul Moss will be on hand to show you round and to see some classes.

I am aware that some of you have particular questions about the background and history of St James. We would be delighted to talk about this and again answer any questions. In the meantime, further information can be found at www.stjameschools.co.uk.

We look forward to meeting you all.

Best wishes



Jeremy Sinclair
Chairman