

1 October 2009

Dear parents

Thanks to all who came to last week's Year 7 music quiz and curry evening. I'm sure you'll agree it was a relaxed and enjoyable occasion. And a big thank you to those who said they would like to be involved in the school's new-look Friends Association. It was good to meet and talk with you all.

This letter is intended to explain a little more about the Friends Association – and to persuade you, if you haven't already done so, to sign up now and get involved. We'd like to create a new kind of organization for MCS parents that combines fund-raising and social events with an ambitious parent forum committed to supporting the work of the school. I believe we can build at MCS an engaged and mutually sustaining community. But this will only happen with your help.

### **Social events and fund-raising**

We will be organizing events each term that will bring together parents, pupils and staff outside the school day, whilst raising all-important funds. We are looking to create new ways for parents to learn about and contribute to MCS life. And, as your children move up the school, we hope to draw on your knowledge and expertise to enrich the experience of all pupils.

Because MCS has no endowments or surplus income, there is an important role to be played by parents in raising funds to enhance our children's school lives. For instance, the extra buses laid on following after-school activities are not covered by authority funding. If this service is to continue, then the additional funds must be found. One valuable way in which we can help the school is to contribute to the Monmouth Comprehensive Educational Trust (MCET), with either a one-off payment or a regular gift. A donation form accompanies this letter.

### **How can you keep in touch?**

The Friends Association will continue to communicate with you in the traditional way – on paper! However, since we are a large and widespread community, it also makes sense to organize and exchange information electronically. So we have set up a Facebook group, **moncomp friends**, which will enable MCS parents to keep in touch with the school and with each other. Here you can contribute to discussions and post comments, as well as receiving invitations to Friends events. The new school website, **monmouth.monmoodle.co.uk**, also has a Friends page. And you can get in touch with me and the Friends Association at **moncompfriends@googlemail.com**.

So please either email us or complete the form below, and sign up now as a Friend. We can then contact you directly. Return the form to the school, marked 'Friends Association'. And, please, don't forget the donation form!

I look forward to working with you.



**Robin Gable**  
Chair of the Friends Association

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**I'd like to sign up as a Friend of Monmouth Comprehensive**

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Name

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Address

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Email

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Telephone

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