

March 2016

Dear Parents

### **Welcome to Gillotts!**

We are delighted that your son or daughter has been offered a place at Gillotts for Year 7 in September and I am writing to welcome you to Gillotts and to set out what you can expect to happen next, once you have accepted the place.

You will be joining the Gillotts community at a very exciting time for us. Our 2015 results put us in the top quarter of schools nationally for student progress. We continue to work hard to improve further and the next academic year will see major changes in several areas, including the embedding of new technologies in teaching and learning. At the same time, we continue to nurture the strong sense of community within the school and to deliver the outstanding care and guidance that we are well known for. We know this is often a stressful time and we want to do as much as we can to make the transition process simple and effective, so your son or daughter can feel excited about the move to a new school.

At the start of Term 6, our **Pioneer Project** begins! This is a four day (Tuesday – Friday) transition experience that will enable your son or daughter to get to know his/her way around the school and to experience what learning at Gillotts is like. It also helps us to get to know the new students, to plan for September. If your child attends one of our “feeder” primary schools, they will come in on these weeks:

07 - 10 June –Shiplake  
14 - 17 June–Trinity  
21 - 24 June –Sacred Heart  
28 June - 01 July–Valley Road  
05 - 08 July–Badgemore

You will receive another letter nearer the time (at the beginning of May) giving more information about the **Pioneer Project** and which week your child will join us. If they do not go to one of the schools listed, it is most likely to be the final week, starting on Tuesday 5 July.

On the Friday of every Pioneer week, starting at 1.30 pm, we hold a gathering when parents are invited to come and join their children for an introduction to the school. A Parents' Handbook, an A-Z guide to Gillotts, will be distributed at this event. Uniform orders can be collected and orders/ exchanges organised.

Enclosed with this letter are the following documents:

**Student information form** - please complete and return the form to the school, marked for the attention of our Admissions Administrator, Helen Bishop.

If you would prefer to complete it electronically, you can download the form from our website: [www.gillotts.org.uk](http://www.gillotts.org.uk) You will find it in the “New Parents” section on the “Parents” tab. Completed forms should be emailed to: [newstudents@gillotts.org.uk](mailto:newstudents@gillotts.org.uk)

We would ask that all completed forms be returned to Gillotts by **Monday 25 April 2016**.

**Uniform information and order form** – Please bring/post completed uniform order forms to school as soon as possible. Again, if you prefer to complete your order electronically, you can download it from the website and return it by email to the address on the form:  
[no-sweat1000@hotmail.com](mailto:no-sweat1000@hotmail.com)

**School transport information** – Please note this is currently being updated and will be sent out as soon as possible.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact, in the first instance, Helen Bishop, by phone (01491 574315) or email: [newstudents@gillotts.org.uk](mailto:newstudents@gillotts.org.uk)

We look forward to welcoming you and your children to our school and to working with you in partnership over the next five years. Thank you for choosing Gillotts.

Yours sincerely

Ms Catharine Darnton  
Headteacher