

Port Regis appoints new Headmaster



Mark Vaughan Lee, the Chairman of Governors at Port Regis Prep School in Dorset, has great pleasure in announcing the appointment of **Benedict Dunhill** (45) to succeed Peter Dix as Headmaster of Port Regis from **September 2010**.

Mark Vaughan Lee comments *"The post predictably attracted an exceptionally strong field, from which we were able to short-list five candidates, each of whom could comfortably have been appointed. A rigorous interview procedure, which involved the school's senior management team, was led by a panel of governors and it examined carefully the suitability of the candidates and their spouses on every front."*



Mark goes on to say *"By the end of the process it had become clear that Ben and his wife Elizabeth were the strongest candidates, and they were the unanimous choice of the governing body."*

Ben was educated at Caldicott and Cranleigh, where he played 1st XI Cricket and 1st XI Hockey and captained the School Eton Fives team. He then took a BA Hons degree at University College, London in French Language and Literature, with English as the subsidiary subject, and he spent one year teaching in Le Puy as part of his degree course.

He then moved into the city where he joined S G Warburg and subsequently became a Business Partner in a well-known Event Management company. Happily he then heeded the call to schoolmastering and was appointed to teach French to A Level at Blundell's, where he also became a Boarding Deputy, a member of the Marketing Committee, President of the Ondaatje Society

and Master i/c Overseas Exchanges. He also coached Cricket, Hockey, Fives and Clay Pigeon Shooting.

His teaching qualification at the University of Sussex coincided with his next post as Boarding Housemaster and Teacher of French at Worth School, where he chaired a full review of the school's timetable to accommodate the advent of the International Baccalaureate, and also served on the School Chaplaincy Committee to oversee the pastoral and spiritual

development of the pupils. Here too he coached all the major sports.

Fortified by his experience in two fine senior independent schools, he then followed his heart into the Prep School world and was appointed as Headmaster of Moreton Hall in Bury St Edmund's in 2004, since when he has made a remarkable impact on the school. His wife, Elizabeth, is fully involved in the school, especially on the pastoral side. In her earlier career Elizabeth was part of the World Challenge organisation and both she and Ben know what the 'spirit of adventure' means recognising to the full that being part of a



school like Port Regis is more a way of life than merely a job.

They have three young children, Camilla (12), Henry (10) and Caspar (8), and we anticipate that the two boys will be joining Port Regis with their parents in September. Mark concludes by saying *"Whilst Peter and Liz Dix will clearly be a hard act to follow, the rest of the governing body and I are extremely confident that this wonderful school will continue to be led inspirationally and enthusiastically and that Ben and Elizabeth will quickly win the confidence and affection of the children, the parents and the staff."*