

## **CHESS – BRITISH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012**

### **Summer Holidays 2012**

In this area we are very lucky that the **2012 British Chess Championships** are being held in the North-East next year, for the first time since Sunderland in 1966. They will be held at the Parks Leisure Centre in North Shields. I would very much like to see as many of our children as possible take part in the Championship appropriate to their age. I am bringing this up now so that parents know what holiday dates to avoid if their children are to be able to take part.

The full adult British Championship itself for the very top players in the country takes place from Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, with Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August reserved for a possible play off and the prize giving ceremony. There are many other events for adults of all standards, both standard and rapidplay. Throughout the event there will be commentaries on the games taking place, opportunities to watch the top grandmasters in action, coaching sessions for juniors, a junior blitz tournament, a grandmaster simultaneous display, a quiz, a cricket match and many other ‘fun’ activities.

I have not yet seen the full programme, but if events follow last year’s pattern these will be the **Dates for the junior tournaments.**

**Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July : Under-11s, Under-13s, Under 15 and 16s (grouped together)**

**Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July : Under-8s**

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> July & Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> July : Under-9s**

**Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August : Under-12s, Under 14s**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August : Under-10s**

The times are arranged so that children are able to take part in two actual tournaments, i.e. An Under-9 can take part in both the Under-9 and Under-10 tournaments.

Note that, following international practice, the ages are calculated on **calendar years**, not school years. Thus a youngster :

Born 2004 or later is Under-8; born 2003 or later is Under-9; born 2002 or later is Under-10;

Born 2001 or later is Under-11; born 2000 or later is Under-12; born 1999 or later is Under-13;

Born 1998 or later is Under-14; born 1997 or later is Under-15; born 1996 or later is Under-16

*Paul Bielby*