

# ADVICE TO A NEW BOY

By BOB CHERRY



*My advice to new boys is not to take the suggestions made by the irrepressible Bob Cherry too seriously!—Ed.*

**T**HIS is a guide for new kids just starting at Greyfriars. By studying it carefully, these tender fledglings can avoid making fat-headed mistakes. I should have been jolly grateful for a few tips when I first started here, I can tell you!

I was so innocent that I thought Big Hall was the name of a senior and Morning Break a funeral carriage, and it took me a long time to learn that fags could be anything but cigarettes. For weeks I was under the impression that the masters were always calling out to a chap named Ben Dover; it never occurred to me that it was actually an order to "Bend over!"

So, you see, there's

nobody realises better than I do how much new kids need a few words of advice.

The first thing you have to remember, if you're arriving at Greyfriars for the first time, is not to call too much attention to yourself. Don't

hire a couple of cabs at the station and ride up to the school with one foot on each roof, or you'll be committing a breach of etiquette straight away. That's the first important point.

Your dress should be neat and not too gaudy.

A pair of white riding-breeches with lizard-skin shoes, and puttees, will make a suitable rig-out for the lower part of you, while the upper half can



Don't put your fingers to your nose when a prefect passes—poke out your tongue at him!

be very effectively clothed in a footer jersey, Eton collar and tailed coat. A Redskin headdress, worn at a not too jaunty angle, will give you that neat finish so highly esteemed by the Head.

On arriving at the school gates, you'll meet Gosling, our one-and-only porter. For goodness' sake, don't tip him ten bob, or chaps will at once think you're putting on side. "Moderation in all things" should be your motto. Tip him nine-and-elevenpence.

Your next experience will be meeting the Head. Most new kids seem to look on this as a terrifying ordeal, but there's no need for it to be anything of the kind. All you need do is to treat him as a human being that you're glad to meet. Don't, of course, go to extremes and start slapping him on the back and laughing heartily. Just stroke him under the chin and snigger. The result will surprise you.

The Head will introduce you to your Form-master, who should be treated with great respect. By this, I don't mean that you should give him a sweeping bow, or anything like that. Just drop him a curtsey and give three cheers, and he ought to be quite satisfied.

Now comes the problem of your behaviour to the other chaps in



Don't turn up in class in just a bathing costume, except by permission.

your P's and Q's with your co-tenants. Whatever you do, don't throw their belongings out of the window to make room for your own. Carrying them out through the door and depositing them neatly in the passage outside may be more troublesome, but it's worth it for the sake of peace and quietness.

Always be cheery and jocular with your study-mates. If you can't manage this by your own unaided efforts, buy a book of jokes and riddles, and read them out aloud, laughing heartily after each one. This will keep the atmosphere of the study bright and cheery—especially, of course, if you make a point of doing it while they're working on their prep.

Now for a few tips on etiquette and deportment in your ordinary everyday life at Greyfriars.

**MEALS.**—It is considered bad form to take two helpings of pudding. Help your-



Don't play footer with the Head's topper during morning break—wait till dinner-time!

self to your neighbour's while he is not looking, instead.

PREFECTS.—To put your fingers to your nose when a prefect passes is very bad manners. Poke out your tongue at him.

RISING BELL.—Never go to sleep again after rising bell. If you feel you haven't had enough rest, wait till you get into class and have another snooze then.

CLASSES.—Even if there's a heat wave on, don't turn up in class in just a bathing costume, except by permission.

JAPES.—It is not the thing to fix up a booby-trap for Mr. Quelch. If you want a victim, choose one of the other beaks.

RECREATION.—It is not advisable to play footer with the Head's topper during morning break. Wait till dinner-time.

BUNTER.—Don't slaughter Bunter. It makes the place untidy.

PERFORMANCES.—When the seniors perform Greek plays, you should not throw tomatoes at them. Use a pea-shooter.

COOKING.—The baking of chestnuts on the fire in the Common-room is frowned on, owing to the smell it makes. If you simply must have something warm to eat, fry a couple of herrings.

There! I haven't finished all I could say by a long chalk. But I'm jolly sure that the new chap who learns all I've said off by heart before he comes to Greyfriars will have a much more interesting life to look back on afterwards than the chap who arrives unprepared!

(That is, of course, if he lives to tell the tale!—ED.)

# Greyfriars Characters

*Introducing you to well-known Greyfriars fellows*

HE'S a fellow straight and true,  
Honest and good-tempered,  
too,  
Staunch and trusting, but no fool—  
WINGATE, Captain of the School!

He's the biggest chump of all,  
Brainless, beefy, loves to bawl,  
Always being ragged, alas!  
HORACE COKER, Champion Ass!

Tactful, cheerful, full of go,  
"Kindest friend and noblest foe,"  
He's the best of chaps alive—  
WHARTON of the Famous Five!

Fat and famous, full of guile,  
He is sure to raise a smile,  
Tries to take our tuck by stealth—  
BILLY BUNTER. Here's his  
health!

Bunter's keeper, so he says,  
Tries to mend that rascal's ways.  
Full of wit and brain and pluck—  
PETER TODD. Let's wish him  
luck!

Fellows say he thinks in rhyme,  
Writing poems all the time.  
He's a sportsman, true and straight—  
PENFOLD, Poet Laureate!

Sharp, and careful of his tin,  
Always raking "dollars" in,  
Lends his cash at fancy rates—  
FISH from the Yewnited States!

He is hard and keen and cool,  
Once the "Boulder" of the school,  
Still inclined to play the goat—  
VERNON-SMITH, a lad of note!