



Celebration of Achievement

Our first big occasion this term is this event which takes place next Tuesday afternoon. This is always a very enjoyable evening as we celebrate all sorts of achievements from the previous year. We are honoured this year to have the Mayor of Peterborough, Councillor John Peach, as the guest of honour. Invitations have been sent to award and certificate winners and their parents; I would ask that everyone is seated by 7.15 at the latest please.

Open Evening

Tuesday week, 6 October, is our Open Evening for students applying for admission to Year 7 next September. In order to prepare for this, students will be dismissed at 2pm. Students who are taking part on the evening will receive details of their arrangements separately. I am currently visiting primary schools to invite students to our Open Evening. Please pass on the date to any parents with children in Year 6 or Year 5: details overleaf.

Catholic Schools Together

There have been two important meetings this week. First, on Wednesday, the headteachers of the four schools in our *Peterborough Catholic Schools* group met to continue discussions about how we might work more closely together. For this week's meeting we invited the headteachers from the three Cambridge schools to explore whether or not seven schools would be stronger than four. Initial thinking is that we would and so we will be discussing this further between ourselves and with governors of all these schools. I will keep parents posted about this development in future newsletters.

The second important meeting was held in London yesterday, when headteachers from the Catholic schools in East Anglia, Brentwood, Northampton and Westminster dioceses came together for a day of reflection and inspiration. On these occasions I am always reminded what a large number of students we jointly educate, and what a powerful group we have the potential to be.

Next Friday, some of our students will be travelling to the cathedral in Norwich for a Mass which will involve all of the Catholic schools in East Anglia. We were limited as to the number we could take so apologies to anyone that asked to go and was turned down.

Sean Hayes

NCS Graduation

Last week I explained that some of our students worked with the National Citizen Service over the summer and were rewarded with certificates. The details which were supposed to appear later in the same newsletter unfortunately were omitted as we ran out of space. I am pleased to rectify this here:

On Thursday 10 September the National Citizen Service (NCS) held its graduation ceremony for students in Peterborough. Out of 130 participants on the summer programme, drawn from schools and colleges in the Peterborough area, 17 were from St John Fisher School; an impressive number from one of the smallest schools in the area.

The students had given up three weeks of their summer to take part in the programme. The first week involved a residential in Norfolk, working on team building and developing personal skills. The second and third weeks were spent planning and delivering a social impact project within the local community. Our students were involved in activities such as meeting and putting on activities for elderly people, playing and carrying out maintenance and repair work at 'Little Miracles' – a centre for young children with profound and complex special educational needs and disabilities, and improving the appearance of the local area including gardening and painting and cleaning underpasses.

What was evident was the pride the students had taken in their work and the way in which their social awareness and understanding of their role in the community had developed as the summer had progressed. Many students spoke of wanting to continue their volunteer work and give more to the community. Their certificates and public acknowledgement were very well deserved – well done to the following students:

Dion Chimanya	Karl Colaco
Daniela Da Costa	Rianna De Paolo
Nigel Fonseca	Paulina Galus
Saif Hashmi	Shanygne Horne
Zaid Hussain	Jack Life
Ziyad Mohammed	Rute Oliveira
Danielle Sharp	Anastasija Starikova
Sercan Ustuner	Daisy Webb
Semjons Zaicevs	

The Service has been into school this week to speak to Year 12 in assembly. We hope that we will again have a good number of participants in 2016.

Chaplaincy News

If you would like your child to be confirmed by the Bishop at St Peter and All Souls church in May 2016, please enrol on the Confirmation course. You can do this by collecting a form either from the back of St Peter and All Souls Church or from me. Please do this by October half term.

Following on from the images and stories we have seen coming out of Europe and the refugee crisis, we would like to do our bit to help those who are displaced through no fault of their own. Every form is being given a box and is asked to fill it with items such as blankets, shoes, socks, gloves, hats, sleeping bags, toiletries and canned food. If you have any such items going spare, please give them to your son/daughter to bring in and donate to their form group box. These boxes will be given to a Peterborough-based charity who will drive the donations to Calais to ensure they are given to those in need. We thank you for supporting this appeal. *Luke Turner, Chaplain*

OPEN EVENING
TUESDAY
6 OCTOBER 2015
7.00 pm in the
School Hall

Music department news

The Rock Pop choir has been invited to perform alongside rock band Think Floyd At the Key Theatre on 1 October. This extraordinary show, dubbed *The Definitive Pink Floyd Experience*, is renowned for its stunning celebration of one of the world's greatest musical phenomena. Tickets can be booked via the Key Theatre website.

In other news, United 5, one of the Czech Republic's most successful bands will be visiting the school on 1 October. They will be performing some of their hits and students will have an opportunity for autographs. Follow them on Facebook and Twitter for updates and gig information. *Tim McCoy*

Parent Zone

The Government has launched a new online tool for schools to give parents advice and tips on preparing their children for adult life.

The new online service is called Parent Zone and gives parents advice on a huge range of issues including E Safety, body image, managing money and homework. The idea of the site is to help give parents the knowledge but also the confidence to support and speak to their children on many difficult and at times sensitive issues.

This site has been developed by Parent Zone and the National Crime Agency CEOP Command (formerly the Child Exploitation and Online protection Centre). It is available on our website in the parent and carers section, at the bottom titled 'Parent Zone'.

We have again started the term off with reminding students of the following Top Tips on how to stay safe online.

Tom Reilly, Deputy Head

Top Tips for Staying Safe Online

- Remember everyone you meet online is a stranger even if they might seem like a friend.
- Always use a nickname when you log on and **never** give out any personal details that would allow someone you meet on line to contact you. *This means full name, home or school address, telephone or mobile number or personal email. It also includes not saying your favourite places to eat or play sport.*
- Never arrange to meet alone someone you make friends with online. They may not be who they say they are. If you are going anyway take an adult you trust and meet in a public place.
- Try to have your own online conversations in public. People are less likely to hassle you if other people can see you doing it.
- Accepting emails or opening files from people you don't really know can get you into trouble – they may contain viruses, nasty messages or annoying links to stuff you don't want to see.
- Talk to an adult eg Tutor, Student Support Officer, or anyone you know well, and ask for help if you're worried or upset about anything you've seen or been sent online.
- You can also directly report any unsuitable material or behaviour to the child exploitation online protection service (CEOPS) or the internet watch foundation.

Celebration of Achievement

A reminder that students who have been awarded a prize at Celebration of Achievement need to be in school at 6.45 on Tuesday 29 September. The event will start at 7.30 and should be finished by 9.00 pm.

Hajj and Eid

Once a year, Muslims of every ethnic group, colour, social status and culture, gather together in Mecca and stand before the Kaaba praising God almighty together. It is a ritual that is designed to promote that everyone is equal in the eyes of God. The Hajj makes Muslims feel real importance of life here on earth, and the afterlife, by stripping away all markers of social status, wealth and pride. This is then followed by Eid-ul-Adha (festival of Sacrifice), also known as the Greater Eid, which is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. The festival remembers the prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son when God ordered him to.

Happy Eid to all our Muslim students and parents. Have a wonderful day!

Zahid Akbar