



Another year ends...

With a busy week next week, this will be the final newsletter for this year. Please read it and keep it safe as it includes the arrangements for the start of term in September. You will notice that we recently passed the 300th edition since I started this weekly bulletin in 2008. A lot has happened since!

It has been a long and eventful year, and one that has been successful for the school. The students have worked hard, especially those who are waiting for exam results in the summer. The teachers and support staff have also worked hard and I would like to thank them on your behalf.

Congratulations too to all of the students who were presented with awards in the Celebration Assemblies this week. They were well-earned and a great way to mark the end of the year.

Next Week

The arrangements for next week are as follows:

Monday: normal lessons

Tuesday and Wednesday: **Focus Days** – each year doing a different activity or trip each day.

Thursday: **Sports Day** - everyone takes part, please come dressed in your house colours.

Friday: **St John Fisher Day** - we celebrate our patron Saint's Feast Day with a liturgy followed by a barbecue provided by the school.

Term ends at 2pm on Friday when all students will be dismissed. Any who need to wait until later should inform their form tutor earlier in the week.

Next Term

The new school year begins for all current students on **Thursday 8 September**. Year 7 will have started the previous day, and Year 12 will have enrolled on the Monday afternoon. We start on Thursday with registration at 8.40; period 1 will be an assembly and form time and then lessons begin after break.

Exam Results

Exam results may be collected from the school hall between 9.00 and 11.00am on the following days:

A level: Thursday 18 August

GCSE: Thursday 25 August

Please note that we are not able to issue results to anyone other than the candidate without the appropriate permission. Please contact the school's exams officer for further details if required.

Congratulations

Many congratulations to the students who received awards at the Celebration of Achievement Evening on Tuesday. We have moved this event from September, when we tended to recognise achievement the previous year, to this time, which seems much more appropriate. I am grateful to Colonel Stuart Williams for being our Guest of Honour and presenting the awards, something that we have been able to arrange through our Army Cadets network. It was a splendid evening and all those who participated were a credit to the school.

Farewell

At the end of this term we say farewell to several members of staff who are leaving us. I would like to thank them for their dedication and contribution to the school and wish them well for the future. Between them they have given many years' service to the school:

George Akinwumi, *RE teacher*

Francis Clark, *French teacher*

Jo Davey, *Administrator*

Rebecca Gould, *PE teacher*

Zoe Granville, *Art teacher*

Jenny Green, *English teacher*

Shabana Hussain, *ICT teacher*

Tina Irvine, *Teaching Assistant*

Janet Kirt, *Personal Assistant*

Conor Mannion, *Science teacher*

Bartolomeu Mendonca, *Teaching Assistant*

Charmian Oldman, *Librarian*

Helen Palmer, *English teacher*

Andrew Philpot, *Maths teacher*

Mehroz Pirzada, *Teaching Assistant*

Janet Riley, *Administrator*

Nicki Robson, *Teaching Assistant*

Mima Siccardi, *Teaching Assistant*

Eunice Williams, *Music teacher*

Hayley Young, *Maths teacher*

I am pleased to be able to report that we have appointed to all our teaching vacancies and will be fully staffed in September. Against a background of teacher shortages nationally this is very reassuring.

I would like to wish everyone a relaxing, safe and enjoyable summer.

Sean Hayes

Focus Day – Wednesday 20 July

Would all year 7 students please wear their PE kit for the Focus Day with Maths on Wednesday 20 July. Thank you.
Mr Philpot

Uniform

The end of the summer term is an opportunity to remind parents about the strict uniform code we have in school. Please in particular can we emphasise that students must have black shoes: trainers or canvas shoes are not permitted.
Miss Wilson

Sports News

Octathlon Day

Last week we had Octathlon Day where 32 students from across the 4 houses competed to be the ultimate athlete. Students competed in 8 different athletics events. The scores go a long way to decide the winners of the House cup. Highlights included a fantastic 800m run by Trinity Francis. Nerjus Vaitkevicius produced a fantastic javelin throw. Gedi Kozik ran a sub 13 second 100m time also. Well done to all athletes involved who produced some superb athletic performances.

St Thomas More Sports Day

Last week Year 10 students helped with the St Thomas More Sports Day. 12 Leaders led a number of different events from Speed Hops to Mini car relays! They all did a fantastic job and the finale was a sprint race between the leaders and Mr Delezynski, which Paulo Rocha was victorious in.

Cricket

On Monday the Under 16 Cricket team were involved in a thrilling game against Nene Park Academy at Orton Park CC. In a game reminiscent of the 2005 Ashes series SJF Boys won with 1 ball to spare. Set a challenging target of 114 in 15 Overs, Hadi Khijir batted superbly with an unbeaten 53, smashing 2 sixes in the process. However, nerves started to jangle and the wickets started to tumble. It was left to Tyreece Glave and Nassim Rhaïem to hold the fort with Nassim hitting the winning runs on the penultimate ball, to much delight from his fellow team mates. Well done on a great performance.
Mr Plane

Walk to Rio

This week the meters certainly went up, with lots of effort being put in. The final results will be announced on the final day of term.

Rochester: 533200m
Beverley: 400400m
Cambridge: 391600m
Westminster: 378800m



Sports Day

Please remember to wear the correct PE kit, fashion leggings without shorts over the top will not be accepted. Please also remember to bring sun cream, water bottle and hat if it is going to be a sunny day.
Mrs Fountain

World Youth Day

This bi-annual event takes place in Krakow this month. We send our prayers and best wishes to Miss O'Connor and Amanda D'Cruz (R7) who are attending as part of the parish group.



Learning Support Visit to Food and Farming Festival

Six students went on a visit to the Food and farming festival at the East of England Showground on Friday 1 July. Highlights of the day included being able to hold new born chicks and stroke huge shire horses and enormous hounds, particularly after the students were initially quite scared of them. All the students made apple pies and there was lots of food to try including fruit, seeds, cheese and ice-cream. The highlight for staff was watching the students enjoying themselves and laughing their way around the show.



It was a lovely day and will be repeated next year.

Ms Wilson

My Kinda Future – TCS Workshop

On Friday 8 July, Year 10 Computing Students took part in a workshop run by TCS looking at employment in the Computing Industry. (Tata Consultancy Service provide IT solutions to companies. They offer workshops where young people can investigate opportunities in the IT and computing sector and look at creative ways technology can be used.)

Students had the opportunity to work in groups to develop an idea for digital sharing. Students came up with ideas of things that could be shared online and designed apps that could be used. Year 10 were described by TCS as being extremely creative and the session was a success. One student Kamile Gostautaitė said "I have learned a lot on Friday's workshop and I have got a lot of ideas of where to go and get work experiences. I think it was brilliant. I have enjoyed it".

Thank you to all Year 10 students for making such a huge effort and for participating in it.

Miss Griffin

Portuguese Visitor

Fr. Erico Rodrigues de Mello Falcao from Brazil will come to St. Luke's Parish on 21 July. He will stay there for some months to minister to Portuguese communities in parishes and schools in the Diocese. We will welcome him to visit our school to talk about his ministry. He can be contacted on 01733 370877.