



A welcome change of direction

Just as last week's newsletter was being issued, news came through that the Government has decided not to continue with its intention to force all schools to become academies. This is a very welcome change of direction and is seemingly a result of objections from many different quarters: parents, teachers, local authorities and many MPs. This now means that we revert to being able to make our own decisions about the future of the school.

Our governors have already arranged to discuss the issue on 22 June at their termly meeting. This will still happen but in a slightly different context.

There remain many, many changes being introduced over the next few years, some of which are equally concerning: two examples are making the EBacc suite of subjects compulsory at GCSE, and the introduction of "SAT resits" for future Year 7 students. Nothing more has been said about either for a few months now so we are in a period of waiting to see what happens next. I hope that a sensible response to concerns about compulsory academisation will lead to more notice being taken of the views of teachers and parents regarding these issues.

Welcome Sacred Heart Students

On Wednesday we welcome Year 5 students from Sacred Heart Primary School who are visiting for the day. We hope you have an enjoyable day and gain an insight into life at secondary school. This term we are trialling having the students come for a whole day rather than a lesson or two, so it will be interesting to hear their feedback afterwards.

Parents Evening: Years 7,8 & 9

The final parents' evening for this year is next Tuesday and is for Key Stage 3 students. **Most students* will be dismissed at 2pm** and parents' evening will begin at 2.30 and continue till 6.30. Online appointments may be made and a letter with the necessary information has been posted home. If you have any questions please contact reception.

**Year 10 students will be dismissed after their exam, which is due to finish at 2pm*

There is an information evening for Year 10 on Tuesday 14 June, at 7pm which will outline what to expect in the final GCSE year; more details later.



Sean Hayes

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."

St. Augustine

Year 11 Travel and Tourism has achieved a 100% pass rate again. Congratulations to the following Year 11 students for not only successfully passing their BTEC Certificate in Travel and Tourism in the two years allotted time, but also upgrading their qualification and completing a Diploma which is a great reward for the perseverance and efforts demonstrated by both students and staff involved. Well done to:

Kamila Baryla	Amie Opie
Samanta Palacionyte	Vera Holubova
Ali Ellahie	Raul Pires
Shariq Khan	Ramesh Bk
Iqra Mustafa	

Well done also to those students who joined this course late but have still managed to successfully pass their BTEC Award in Travel and Tourism within a year, namely:

Neldia Rodrigues	Viera Holubova
Adrian Scuka	

Thanks to the great support provided to the class by Mrs Grooms and Mrs Stodolak, these students will now be able to go on to the next level in their education and we wish them the best of luck for the future, especially those students going on to study Travel and Tourism at a higher level at Peterborough Regional College.

Dr Bottrill

Cambridge House Blue Day Wednesday 18 May 2016

Mufti: £1 in advance / £2 on the day

All the fun of the fair

Welly Wanging	Lemon Balancing
Toffee Apples	Apple Bobbing
Shooting Gallery	Ice creams
Minion Splat	Bagatelle

GCSE Exams next week

A full timetable is on the website and students have personal timetables. Parents are asked to check at least the day before to ensure students know what exam they have and when, and that they have the right equipment.

	Morning (09.00)	Afternoon (13.00)
Monday 16 May	Drama & Theatre Studies (A) RE (GCSE) Economics (AS) Science (BTEC – Year 10)	Psychology (AS & A level) Portuguese (A level) Urdu (A level)
Tuesday 17 May	French (GCSE) Sociology (AS & A level)	Biology (GCSE) Geography (A level)
Wednesday 18 May	Maths (A level)	History (A level)
Thursday 19 May	Chemistry (GCSE) Religious Studies (A level)	Business Studies (AS & A level)
Friday 20 May		PE (GCSE) Geography (A level) Portuguese (GCSE)

*A Hot Tips session will be provided before the French exam on Tuesday 17 May
This will be in Room 206 from 8.00 to 8.30 - breakfast will be provided*

Gideons

On Tuesday 10 May, Year 7 students were given another opportunity to enter into the door of faith through a visit from the Gideons, and the option of accepting the gift of a New Testament and Psalms to take away with them.

The Gideons was founded in 1899 by three commercial travellers in the USA to encourage each other in their Christian life. They chose the name Gideons after an Old Testament leader and they became established in the British Isles in 1949. Their aim is to give as many people as possible the opportunity to read the Bible for themselves and to discover God in a personal way. They do this by placing Bibles in hotels, hospitals, prisons, student accommodation and through visiting schools. Year 7 were very respectful throughout the presentation and many students accepted the gift of a New Testament and Psalms.

Luke Turner

Work Experience Opportunity

The school has been given details of an opportunity for any student aged 15 or over interested in Animal Care to get two days intensive work experience with the Wood Green Animal Charity in August. Any interested students should contact me for further details of the placement and how to apply.

Miss Wilson

Old Trainers

If anyone has any trainers they no longer need, the PE department could put them to good use. Please speak to Mrs Fountain or any member of the PE department for information. Thank you.

Year 11 History Revision

Year 11 after school History revision sessions will continue until 21 June.

Mrs Quince

Music News

Thursday 5 May saw the last in-school rehearsal with composer Tim Steiner and professional musicians from the Britten Sinfonia. SJF students have been working hard for a few months on their own large scale musical composition based heavily on dynamics, rhythm and improvisation. They will be rehearsing in Kingsgate on Wednesday 23 May for the performance on Thursday 24 May from 12.00 - 1.00. Year 7 students will also be sharing the experience with the performers and joining students from Jack Hunt, TDA and Ken Stimpson in supporting their fellow students in this musical spectacular.

Mr McCoy

Royal Marines Visit

Last Thursday a team of serving Royal Marines visited school to give a talk to a group of Year 9 students. They talked about life in the marines – both positive and negative aspects – and spoke about why they had selected it as a career and what they personally got from it. The presentation was well delivered, balanced and extremely informative, capturing the interest of all students involved. There were opportunities for students to ask questions and do some press-ups! Some students have been inspired to think about joining our school's CCF, while others decided it probably wasn't the right pathway for them, however all students valued the opportunity to find out about a career in the armed forces. One student summed up the experience as follows: "I don't think I want to be in the Army or Marines, but it is always good to find out about different careers so you can make a better choice for yourself in the future."

Miss Wilson