

St John Fisher News

20 April 2018

No. 365

Spring is here

We seemed to go through the Easter holiday without any sign of Spring weather but finally this week the sun is out and the temperature has started to rise. I do hope that the break was rewarding and peaceful even if the weather was disappointing. This first newsletter of the new term includes quite a bit of news and information so please read it carefully.



Email Threats

Over the last few months there have been stories in the news about schools being sent emails threatening that incidents will occur. We received one of these just before Easter. Although it appeared to be a hoax we immediately contacted the police who advised us not to do anything other than follow our usual routine. That same email had been sent to many schools at the same time, mainly in the East of England, and a person was arrested a few days later in Hertfordshire. The police took the opportunity to remind all schools of the procedure that they would expect to be followed in any further cases. I mention this now so that parents are aware that we have been targeted but that police were immediately involved.

Mme Feda Haine

I am very sorry to have to share with you that Madame Haine passed away just before Easter. She was our Head of Languages for ten years before taking early retirement in 2014. She was a highly respected teacher and students enjoyed her lessons and benefited from her passion for her native language.

We offer our condolences to her family at this sad time. *Qu'elle repose en paix.*

Important Dates

Please note the following for this term:

| Mon 7 May | Bank Holiday – school closed |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tue 22 May | Parents Evening: Years 7, 10 & 12 |
| 28 May – I June | Half Term Holiday |
| Tue 26 June | Celebration of Achievement |
| 28 & 29 June | Performances of Grease |
| Wed 4 July | Year 6 Welcome Day |
| Wed 18 July | Activity Day |
| Thu 19 July | Sports Day |
| Fri 20 July | St John Fisher Day. Term ends |

Students sitting GCSE and A level exams will be issued with personal timetables: please keep these safe.

Congratulations

On Sunday Iliy and Raymond Albuquerque and Julena Farrimond were confirmed by Bishop Alan at All Souls. We offer our prayers and best wishes to them on this important stage of their faith journeys. We were also delighted to hear that a past student, Hannah Nawaz, has been offered a place to study dentistry at Kings College London. Very well done.

Term Dates for next year

Governors have now approved the dates for next year. Please make a careful note of these and ensure than holidays are not booked during term time. Government advice on these has not changed yet I still receive frequent requests, all of which have to be refused unless there are exceptional circumstances. Unusually, none of the terms begins on a Monday next year.

Autumn Term 2018

3 & 4 SeptemberTraining days5 SeptemberTerm Begins for Year 7 onlyThu 6 SeptemberTerm Begins for all22 - 26 OctoberHalf Term Holiday19 DecemberTerm Ends

Spring Term 2019

| Thu 3 January | Term Begins |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 18 – 22 February | Half Term Holiday |
| 25 February | Training day |
| 5 April | Term Ends |

Summer Term 2019

| Tue 23 April | Term Begins |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 6 May | Bank Holiday |
| 27 – 31 May | Half Term Holiday |
| 19 July | Term Ends |
| 22 & 23 July | Training Days |

Sean Hayes



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Cambridge News

A great last week for Cambridge before Easter, full of the fun of the fair and our tutors going head to head with weird challenges. Of course nothing would have happened without all of our volunteers so a big thank you to them. Altogether Cambridge raised £132.14 for charity.

We also had a lot to celebrate before we broke up for Easter. Congratulations to the following students for outstanding effort and achievement:

Camila, C6, Year 8 – Geography Mobin, C1, Year 8 – Computing Da-Shannel, C4, Year 11 – Food Technology Devshi, C8, Year 11 – Product Design Khijir, C6, Year 11 – Religious Education Lerica, C2, Year 11 – Modern Foreign Languages

Best in form:

| CI Vanessa Abankwa | C2 Neelofar Qaisar |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| C3 Rasika Monteiro | C4 Valter Brito |
| C5 Karina Muzaite | C6 Isabel Cuenca |
| C7 Evelina Balseryte | C8 Laila Jahangir |

A big hand too for Ricardo Gabor in Year 8 (C3) for being awarded best in house. *Bismillah Allam, Year 9*

Green Day

On the 27 March Westminster House held their Green Day. The day was a series of activities and stalls that were designed to raise money for good causes. At break time students organised for a selection of foods from around the world to be sold, I have never seen samosas sell so quickly, they were delicious. Lunchtime saw Crisaldo get soaked with water bombs and the highlight for many who visited the Atrium was Mr Plane, Miss James, Mr Cayley and Mr O'Hara competing for the prestigious bug eating title. Though very close towards the end, a well-deserved first place went to Mr O'Hara who devoured everything on his plate including queen leafcutter ants and pigs brains. Great fun and thank you to all for your support. My final thanks to all the parents and students who supported the event making cakes and providing other treats. The day was a huge success and I am delighted to inform you we raised over £850 for good causes.

Rochester News

At the end of last term we celebrated all the hard work and positive contributions that Rochester students have made to the school since January. There were many merit and 100% attendance certificates given out and the best in House award was won by R3. Rocky Rochester will be staying in room 210 for the rest of this school year. Special thanks needs to be given to those students who were awarded best in form awards, for being extra supportive and positive during form time each day. Well done Roderigo Ferreira (R1), Nicola Zybajlo (R2), Daniela Mazyar (R3), Kazim Raffiq-Fazal (R4), Xyzanyn Valmonte (R5), Vivyane Pedro (R6), Nayaab Qamar (R7), Qasim Iqbal (R8).

We also had fun at the end of last term raising $\pounds 140$ for Marie Curie Cancer Care and Teenage Cancer Trust by dying Mrs Guppy-Wilcox hair green (and red and yellow) and waxing Mr Plane's legs on stage. A special thank you needs to go to R3 who contributed £36 to the charity pot. I look forward to organising more fun charity antics with the House Council in the summer term. Ms Stevens

Debate Club

Will be taking place in room 106 from 3:30 – 4:15 every Wednesday. The statement for discussion this week was 'Kim Kardashian is the globe's most positive female role model for young women'.

Students from year 10 - 13 are welcome and encouraged to arrive with two facts on the topic; one that they can use to argue against the statement, and one to argue for the statement. Next week's statement will be "Is censorship in the media justified"

Sixth Form Sponsored Fast

The sixth form fast which took place from 22 - 23 March was great fun! The evening started off with games led by Mr Turner to get the year 12s and 13s socialising together. Later on, we watched horror movies and played Sardines led by Mr Chesham to keep ourselves occupied. By morning, I think I can safely say as a whole group that we were absolutely shattered from no sleep and empty stomachs but the whole experience was worthwhile and for a good cause since all the money raised from donations, over £600, went to a charity called Children of Adam, which helps the homeless people of Peterborough. We all finished our fast at lunchtime on 23 March when we were treated by Miss O'Connor and Mrs Khan to pizzas. So a big thank you to all staff involved.

Wembley Trip

The last week of term we travelled to Wembley Stadium to watch England v Italy. We took 40 students to the game. The group saw a fabulous game and were amongst 85,000 spectators who witnessed Jamie Vardy give England the lead before a controversial late Italian penalty levelled the scores. The students all had a fabulous time and behaved impeccably throughout.

Sports Relief

Last month the PE Department ran a week of events for Sports Relief. On the Monday we had a mass dodgeball game. Tuesday and Wednesday saw staff vs student challenges; with the staff team overcoming the student teams in all events, helped by Mr Hayes' super serve. Thursday we had boxercise; students had a chance to test their jabs and hook combinations against staff – the students really went for it! We finished the week with a mass fitness session, led by personal trainer Kyle O'Sullivan who led a HIIT session – well done to Andreia Oliveira on winning the personal training session. All of this raised a considerable amount for Sports Relief – well done to all involved.

Year 10 Pre-Public Exams: 8 – 11 May

Year 10 students were issued with provisional PPE timetables before the end of last term and next week will receive an updated timetable confirming the exam room and their seat number for each PPE. Students should revise and prepare as they would for a real exam to get the most out of them.