



As we come to the end of what has felt like a very long term I am sure that we are all looking forward to a rest as much as we are looking forward to

Christmas. It seems to have been one of the busiest terms that I can remember but I am sure that is a reflection of how much is going on in the school now. This is the final newsletter of the term; I delayed its issue so that we could include some of the items that would otherwise be missed.

Thank you very much to all those who have contributed in any way to the Carol Service, Christmas Liturgy, Celebration Assemblies, Advent Acts of Kindness, the *Encore* production, Shakespeare Schools Festival, sports and house competitions...and everything else that has happened this month.

I would like to wish everyone a very peaceful, happy and holy Christmas.

Sean Hayes

## Key Dates and Times

Term finishes tomorrow. We will have period 1 as usual and then after break we will have our Christmas Liturgy followed by Christmas Dinner, which the school is providing. Students will be dismissed at 2pm.

The Spring Term starts on **Thursday 3 January** at the usual time. Please note that this will still be Week 1 of the timetable.

That same afternoon, we will be presenting **GCSE and A level certificates** to students who sat exams last summer. Invitations have been sent out but please spread the word too: it is always a great, informal reunion and we like to hear what those who have left us are now doing. The timing is especially designed to enable those who are at university to be able to attend. There is **Parents Evening for Years 11, 12 & 13** on Tuesday 8 January from 4.30-6.30pm. Please make appointments online in the usual way.



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## Head Boy/Girl Elections

The results of Friday's elections are:

Head Boy/Girl: Gamu Mararike and Nicole Portugal  
Deputies: Chiko Manuel and Vanesa Kandracova

Congratulations to you all and thank you for offering to serve the school in these roles. We would also like to say thank you to the other candidates, and to last year's team of Glenver, Vanessa, Yasoda and Mohammed who will be a very tough act to follow. They wrote about their year in last week's newsletter and also gave a presentation to the senior leadership team. You were excellent and we thank you for your hard work and commitment.

## Speakers for Schools

This excellent service, started by the journalist Robert Peston, arranges for interesting people to go into schools and speak to students. We regularly host one of these and were delighted yesterday to welcome **Ed Balls**, former Secretary of State for Education and Vocalist **Hayley Sanderson** (both also know for their *Strictly Come Dancing* performances). Students were given a riveting talk on their life experiences and advice for them for the future.

## Diocesan Inspection

Last Tuesday we had a short inspection by a diocesan inspector. This was essentially to follow up on the full inspection of December 2013 with the intention of confirming that we remain outstanding. The inspector was very impressed with the school, the students and their approach to prayer, the quality of RE lessons, and much more. When we receive the written report we will make it available on the website.



## Farewell

Tomorrow we say farewell to four members of staff: Jane Bartle, *Food Technology teacher*, Audriee Ennin-Mensah, *Subject Leader for Music*, Emma Guppy, *Subject Leader for Art*, Jack Marcham, *Science teacher*, and Judith Pawson, *Drama teacher*. We thank you all for your contribution to the school and the work you have done with our students. We also say a temporary farewell to Adila Naz and Radmila Storkanova as they begin maternity leave.



## School Funding Petition

I have frequently mentioned the situation regarding school funding during 2018, and this week we learned that funding for Sixth Form students is to remain frozen. The concerns remain and there has now been a petition setup on the parliament website. These petitions are considered for a debate in parliament when they reach 100,000 signatures. If you feel inclined to support this important issue please go to

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

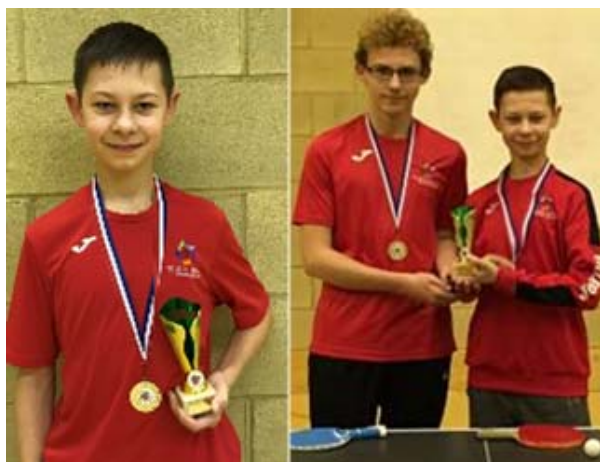
## Year 11 – The 5 Ps – Planning

The Year 11 students received their mock results on Tuesday and now attention turns to trying to improve results when they sit their next PPEs in the week beginning Monday 4 March. As part of planning for the next eight school weeks the students will be invited to period five sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If allocated a period five, students are expected to attend. When students are not directed to a period five session a study room will be made available for all Year 11 students to use. The room will be supported by members of staff who can help to guide the students during their own personal study. A reminder that Parents Evening is on Tuesday 8 January, please book your appointments.

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step”

## Table Tennis News

Over the last week we have taken a number of students to Kings School to compete in the PDSSA City Table Tennis competitions. All students performed excellently, we were extremely successful and brought the titles back to school in the U16 Singles and Doubles competitions. We also came second in the U14 Boys Doubles tournament. Well done to Jakub Kurowski and Krystian Szczerba who won the Doubles competition and Jakub again who completed the clean sweep in the singles competition – the boys were undefeated in their competitions, playing some excellent table tennis. A fantastic achievement.



*'A year of reading ... a lifetime of memories.'*

website: [www.stjohnfishersschool.org.uk](http://www.stjohnfishersschool.org.uk)  
email: [enquiries@stjohnfishersschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stjohnfishersschool.org.uk)

## Green Day

Congratulations to Westminster House on raising **£1028** last week. This takes the total raised so far towards the Sensory Garden to **£4947**, almost half way to our target. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

## Encore!



**Encore!** is an extra-curricular drama club who have met once a week since October to participate in practical workshops, build confidence and develop performance skills. This culminated in a performance of extracts from the challenging, fast-paced and action-packed play by Alan Ayckbourn. It was supported by an audience comprising of family members of the cast and members of the Expressive Arts team.

My first term at St John Fisher Catholic High has flown by and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with these talented, committed and imaginative students.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and all good things for 2019!

*Judith Pawson, Drama Teacher*

**Academic Tutoring Year 11:  
10 December - 4 January**

## School Admissions Consultation

The Local Authority is consulting on the proposed schemes and arrangements for 2020/21 between 19 November 2018 and 13 January 2019.

The Consultation Documents can be viewed on the Council's website at:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/consultation/s/annual-consultation-of-admission-arrangements-2020-2021/>

Objections to any of the proposed arrangements, or requests for further information about the proposed admission arrangements in Peterborough for 2020/21 should be received no later than 23:59 on Sunday 13 January 2019 and should be addressed to;

Interim Admissions Manager, Peterborough City Council,  
School Admissions Team, Sand Martin House,  
Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, PE2 8TY  
or by email to: [admissions@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@peterborough.gov.uk)  
Sophia Taylor – Peterborough City Council

