



## Advent

As we start the Advent season, we consider the theme of Hope with scripture from Isaiah: 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.' In assembly this week, we lit the first candle, the Prophet's Candle, on our Advent wreath. In preparation for Christmas, we also gathered for our Reconciliation Service followed by the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you to Fr Karol Porczak from St Peter and All Souls, Fr Waldemar Smaialek from St Peter and All Souls, Fr Tony Shryane retired priest and Fr Arockiya Seelan from St Oswald who came to hear student and staff confessions.

## Carol Service

We had a wonderful evening on Thursday at our annual Catholic Schools Carol Service with all 5 Catholic schools in Peterborough and March coming together to mark Advent. Many thanks to all those involved.

## Parents Evening

We welcomed Year 11 and 13 parents into school this week to meet with subject teachers. The evening was very well attended and timely following the recent round of internal Pre-Public Exams.

## Head Students

Finally, this week the students and staff at St John Fisher voted for their new Head Students. Results will be shared next week. I wanted to thank all 6 of the prospective leaders for putting themselves forward for this prestigious role and wish them all the very best.

*Kate Pereira*

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation



On Wednesday we held our Reconciliation Services as part of our Advent journey and preparation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and his second coming at the end of time. Each service began with the lighting of our Advent Wreath, as we have done all week. The evergreens and circular wreath symbolise God's everlasting love for us and the candles remind us of Christ's light. Our theme of 'Words', focused on how our words can have a positive or negative effect on those around us. The scripture, the drama, the examination of conscience all reflected

this theme. We were reminded to use our words for 'what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear' Ephesians 4:29. Our special thanks go to all the readers, drama students, Mr Goakes and everyone involved. After the services and for the rest of the day, we were joined by our Diocesans priests, who heard confessions and spoke with students. Further to Mrs Pereira's thanks I would like to add mine, to all the priests, for their time and all they do to support our students.

*Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain*

## Catholic Schools Carol Service



On Thursday evening we celebrated our Catholic Schools Carol Service. It was an incredibly beautiful night, which began with a candlelit procession with the students humming and then singing Silent Night. All five Catholic schools, St Thomas More, Sacred Heart, All Saints Interfaith School (March), St John Henry Newman and St John Fisher, each sung their own prepared carol, which was interspersed with readings telling the Christmas Story and congregational carol. Just under 150 students from the five schools and a pleasing number of the congregation joined in this joyful evening. What a truly wondrous evening it was and how wonderful the children sang and read. Our grateful thanks to so many who were involved; to all the readers, musicians, choirs and especially Mrs Pearson our music lead who led all the schools as a joint choir and to all the music leads at each school for all their hard work, rehearsals and conducting. Our thanks to Fr Karol from St Peter and All Souls for leading us in prayer and his Homily, reminding us of our part in the Christmas story. It is so important to recognise how much goes on as part of the preparation for an evening such as this, so my final thanks go to our Site Team, Catering staff, IT staff and everyone who was involved.

*Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain*



"Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader"

## Advanced Notice

Tuesday 19 December will be a multi-day. Students and staff will contribute £1 to wear non-school uniform with all proceeds going to CAFOD.

Wednesday 20 December school will close to all students at 2pm.

Mrs Wilmore, Senior Deputy Headteacher

## Academic Tutoring

### Year 11

**4 December – 15 December  
2023**

Upcoming Events	
11 December	<b>Westminster</b> House celebration Assembly
13 December	<b>Beverley</b> House celebration Assembly
14 December	<b>Rochester</b> House celebration Assembly
15 December	<b>Cambridge</b> House celebration Assembly
20 December	End of term, school closes at 2pm



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## YDP News



**Y.D.P. HAF**  
YOUTH DREAMS PROJECT  
WE BELIEVE IN YOUTH

# Christmas CAMPS

Is your child eligible for benefit related free school meals?  
If the answer is yes, you can apply for FREE\* camps for 5 - 16 year olds at 1 venue of your choice (listed below).

<b>HAMPTON GARDENS (PE7 8HR)</b> 20TH-22ND DEC 9AM - 3PM	<b>WILLIAM LAW PRIMARY (PE4 5DT)</b> 21ST-22ND DEC + 2ND-3RD JAN 9AM - 3PM	<b>BISHOP CREIGHTON ACADEMY (PE1 5DR)</b> 20TH-22ND DEC 9AM - 3PM	<b>JACK HUNT (PE3 8PY)</b> 21ST-22ND DEC 10AM - 3PM	<b>STANGROUD ACADEMY (PE7 3BY)</b> 22ND DEC + 3RD-4TH JAN 10AM - 2PM
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**FREE!** **APPLY NOW!**  
Complete our online application form here  
or visit [youthdreamsproject.co.uk/ydp-projects/haf/](http://youthdreamsproject.co.uk/ydp-projects/haf/)

Facebook: @Youth Dreams Project  
Instagram: @youthdreamsproject  
Phone: 07583 988413

## Extra-Curricular Activities 2023-24

### Monday Lunchtime

All Years – Maths Help Club

All Years – Boys Basketball

All Years – Film Club

All Years – Chaplaincy Ambassadors - Chapel

### Monday After School

Duke of Edinburgh activities

All Years - Boys/Girls Football

All Years – Girls Netball

All Years - Homework Club Study Centre

### Tuesday Lunchtime

All Years – Keyboard – Room 102

All Years – Maths Help Club

All Years – Girls Football

### Tuesday After School

Duke of Edinburgh activities

All Years Homework Club Study Centre

### Wednesday Lunchtime

All Years – Maths Help Club

All Years – Indoor Mixed Cricket

### Wednesday After School

Duke of Edinburgh activities

STEM Club - Lego League

All Years - Badminton – Sports Hall

All Years – Homework Club Study Centre

### Thursday Lunchtime

Key Stage 3 – Art Club

All Years – Choir – Room 102

All Years - Maths Help Club

All Years – Girls Benchball

All Years – Girls Basketball

### Thursday After School

Duke of Edinburgh activities

All Years – Fitness - Gym

All Years – Homework Club Study Centre

### Friday Lunchtime

Years 8 & 9 - Inter Catholic Quiz Team

All Years – Gardening Club

All Years – Maths Help Club

### Friday After School

Duke of Edinburgh activities

All Years – Homework Club Study Centre

## Breakfast - Free Bagels

Why not start the day with a filling breakfast. Our Breakfast club runs every day between 8.10am and 8.30am all students are welcome to come and join us in the Dining Hall for a free bagel.

