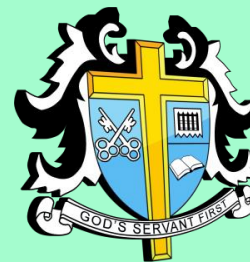




CONTACT

No. 1424 – Friday 27th April 2018



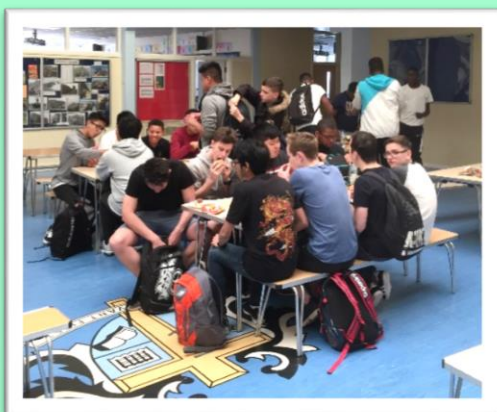
Dear Parents and Pupils,

This week has been a very eventful week! As you no doubt all be aware, on Tuesday, our school was visited by HMI Kim Pigram and Ol Carole Herman to conduct a short inspection as we were judged Good at our last Section 5 inspection in 2015. These short inspections take place approximately every four years and determine whether the school continues to provide a good standard of education for the pupil and that safeguarding is effective.

I am very pleased that both inspectors understood the distinctive nature of our Catholic school and identified great strength and value in the holistic education we provide to all our pupils.

Thank you for your continued support and particularly to those who completed parental surveys or have written letters or emails of support. I would also like to thank the students who rose to the occasion, behaved exceptionally and spoke with great pride and confidence about their school community. We look forward to reading the report very soon.

Year 11 Revision Sleepover – Last weekend, for the second year, staff



and Year 11 students spent an intensive weekend in school revising and preparing for their forthcoming examinations. I'm

certainly glad that myself, Mr Hardiman and Ms Corr were able to get some sleep on Saturday night in the sports hall, given the intensity of our days with Ofsted on Monday



and Tuesday! Thank you so much to the staff who came in on both the Saturday and Sunday to deliver these invaluable sessions to our Year 11 and I hope that students realise just how much revision you can pack into a day and still have time for rest and recreation in these next few weeks of hard work.



**Highlight
of the Week**

Football success – Congratulations to former student, Lewis Gard, who has made his team debut with the 'Shrimpers' at the match against Oldham Athletic on Tuesday evening (Southend 3, Oldham Athletic, 0). He now hopes to be involved in the last two games of the season. Well done, Lewis!

Prefect Mass - Mass was celebrated for the new and retiring prefect bodies last night at St. Peter's RC Church Eastwood. It was a truly wonderful, uplifting and spiritual experience which was extremely well attended by Y11/10 prefects, parents, friends and family.

My sincere thanks to all staff who managed to attend and to those who contributed to the service.

Special thanks to Fr. Jeff.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring prefect body, Alex and his team, for all the hard work and effort given to support the school and wider community, very best wishes to you all for your examinations and future career paths.

I wish Tom and his team every success for the year ahead. S.Griffin. Teacher i/c prefects.



Take Your Son to Work Day – Yesterday saw the majority of our Year 8 and 9 students take part in National 'Take Your Son to Work Day'. More details to follow about how they got on in next week's Contact.

Year 10 Parents' Evening - On 9th May we are holding our Year 10 Parents' Evening. The evening provides a valuable opportunity to discuss your son's progress in his subjects and to address any concerns that you may have. We look forward to seeing you then. Mr Hardiman, Director of Learning i/c Pupil Achievement.

Weekly Prayer

Lord God,

*thank you for being my good shepherd and for always being there to help me.
Help me to know that I can turn to you whatever my problems or difficulties.*

On this Vocations Sunday,

I pray that you will help me find my vocation in life.

Amen.

Weekly Mass - This Thursday students from St. George's House gathered in the Chapel for their House Mass. We are grateful to Father Gerry Drummond, who celebrated Mass and my thanks go to all the students from Years 7 – Year 13, who did the readings and prayers and to all the staff and students who attended.

Confirmandi Mass – Fr. Graham Smith will be coming into School on Thursday 17th May 2018 to celebrate Mass at 1.35 p.m. in the Chapel for all students who have, or are being Confirmed this academic year. Could all students please see Mrs. Maxfield a.s.a.p. so that a list of names can be compiled. More details to follow next week.

Coast to Coast Rosary – Sunday 29th April 3.00 p.m. - An Invitation to Parents and Students to an event run by Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Leigh on Sea: – after similar events in Poland and Ireland, we plan to pray the rosary around the coast of Great Britain in April this year. The event, which is scheduled for Sunday 29 April, will pray specifically for our country, for peace and for the upholding of the dignity of human life. This mass-rosary prayer will help combat the present threats to faith, the dignity of the human person and to peace and encourage a re-flourishing of our Faith. Our Parish will pray the Rosary on the waters-edge at The Crowstone, bottom of Imperial Avenue at 3pm. Visit the website for more details: www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk

Holydays of Obligation - There are two holydays of obligation this term, the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday May 10th and the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul on Friday 29th June. We know that many students will be attending Mass with their families. For those students who are unable to attend in their parishes there will be Mass held in school during the lunch hour which is open to all. This term's Mass for the whole school community will take place on the Feast of St Thomas More on Friday June 22nd.

Sixth Form Student Leadership - Students in year 12 are warmly encouraged to reflect upon their potential for leadership and to consider making an application. The information about how to apply is now available on the VLE <https://vle.st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk/course/view.php?id=661> Applications should be submitted by May 4th. Please see Mrs Webb if there are any queries about the roles or the process for appointment.

School Council and student leadership - The final meeting of the current student council will take place on Monday 30th April in the new meeting room at 1:35pm. Thank you to our Head Boy, Thomas Millham and our Head Girl, Elena Bailey who have together led the Council for the last year. Elections will take place soon for representatives from each year group to be part of the new School Council together with the process for Form, Chaplaincy and Sports Leaders in Years 7-10.



Spanish Club - All KS3 pupils welcome!

Wednesday 13.40-14.05 Spanish Club Mrs Terry and Mrs Foster
Videos/songs/films plus help with Speaking and Writing.

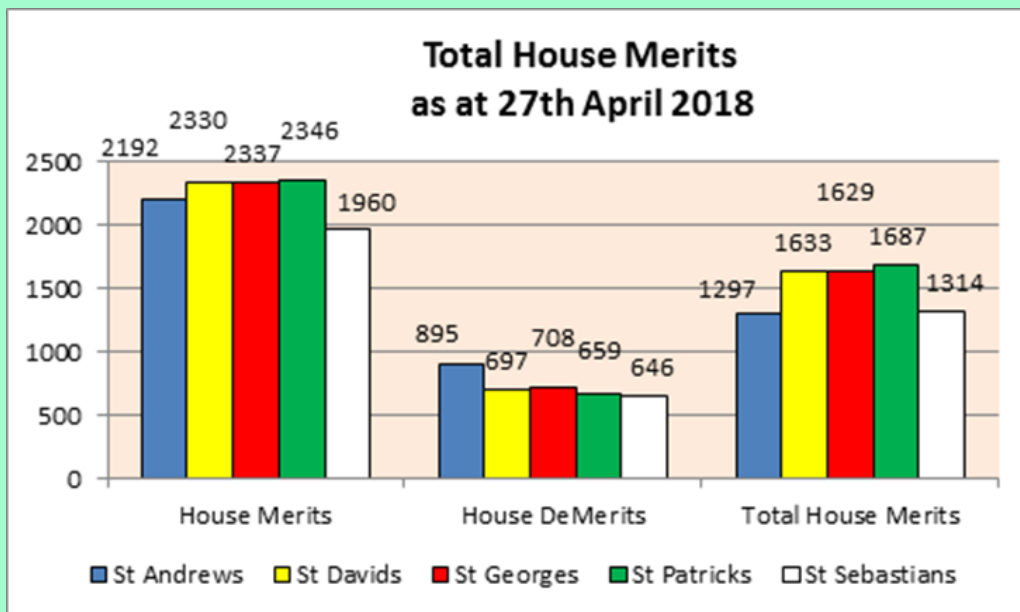
¡Hasta luego! Also, would you like to practise your Spanish in a friendly and relaxed way? Come & join Señora Terry and Mari-Carmen in MFL2 first half of lunch on Wednesday.

**Practise your Spanish –
Writing and Speaking skills**
Years 9, 10 & 11

Do you need help with some
grammatical structures?
Come & join Señora Williams in MFL1
after school on Monday.
¡Nos vemos!



House News!





SPORTS NEWS

PE Student of the Week - This week's PE Student of the Week is Adam Mhlaba for his man of the match performance in the Year 10 Essex Rugby plate final – well done Adam! PE Dept.

SPORTS FIXTURES

DATE	FIXTURE	TIME
30/04/2018		
01/05/2018	Inter School Athletics Meet	3:45pm
02/05/2018	Yr 11 Football Essex Cup Final vs Bromfords (Aveley FC) Tennis v Westcliff @ WLTC	6:30pm 4:00pm
03/05/2018	Borough Athletics Trials (Eastwood) Year 9 Essex Cricket vs Shoebury (HOME)	4:15pm 3:45pm
04/05/2018		

EXTRA CURRICULAR SPORTS TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.00 - 8.30am	PE DEPARTMENT MEETING	Hurdles Training - All years (CB) Sprints - All years (SB/EK)	GCSE/A Level catch-up (TR6) Run-Bike-Run (SB/CB)	Long/Triple Jump - All years (JB/CB)	Athletics Throws - Year 7 & 8 (CB) Sprints & Middle Distance - All years (SB)
1.40 - 2.20pm	Long/Triple Jump - All years (CB/TH) Hurdles - All years - 800/1500m (SB) Year 7 NBA Basketball Training (GL)	High Jump - All years (CB) Long/Triple Jump - All years (SB)	Sprints & Hurdles - All years (EK/TW/TH)	Indoor Cricket - Year 7 & 8 (EK)	Racket Sports (NS) Middle Distance - All Years - 800/1500m (JB)
3.30 - 5.00pm	Run-Bike-Run (SB/MG) Athletics Throws - All years (CB/MT)	Cricket Training - Year 7 & 8 (EK/CB) Middle Distance - All years - 800/1500m (JB)	Athletics Throws - All years (GL/CB) Year 7 & 8 Southend FC Football on Astro	High Jump - All years (CB/TH) Cricket Training - Year 9 & 10 (MT/TW/JM)	Badminton Club - All years (JM/SG)