

CONTACT

No. 1449 – Friday 14th December 2018



Dear Parents and Pupils,



Advent Service – Last night we held our annual Advent Service for our school community and were delighted that our Year 7 students and their families were able to join us. We were able to share this service again with the rest of the school community this morning. The service enabled us to continue to mark this season of Advent with reading, reflections, prayer and music. My thanks to the site and sound team for their preparation of the hall, which looked beautiful in the candlelight; Mr Riches, Ryan Hayes and the members of the Lit Choir whose hard work and practice certainly came to fruition; to Mrs Maxfield and the readers who took us through the journey to Christmas through scripture and reflections and to Mrs Webb for her vision in putting everything together.

End of Term – A reminder that the school closes for the Christmas break at **1:35pm on Thursday 20th December**. If your son uses Stephenson's, Crest, SBC or Amber coaches he should have collected a letter from reception regarding his journey home from school on that day.

Christmas Tree Donation – Our thanks yet again to Mr and Mrs Bolt, parents of Year 11 student, Joe Bolt, who have kindly donated an enormous Christmas tree from their garden centre, Wheatley Farm Nursery, Rayleigh. It was enjoyed yesterday by parents and guests at our Advent Service and by our visitors from Kingsdown School and today from St Christopher's School at their Christmas party and will be enjoyed again at next week's Prize-giving Ceremony, at the, and Lancaster School Christmas Party



Weekly Prayer

Dear Jesus,

*I'm sorry for the times I have not been all I can be,
especially in the way I have treated others.*

Thank you for the gift of forgiveness.

*Please help me to make a new start
so that I can welcome your birthday with joy and hope.*

AMEN



Weekly Mass – Students from Form 10G gathered together in the Chapel to celebrate their Form Mass at lunchtime along with members of staff. We were pleased to welcome Father Jeff Woolnough. My thanks to all the students who led us in prayer and proclaimed the readings.

Southend Foodbank - To all parents and carers my thanks to everyone who has donated items for the Foodbank, especially this last week in time for Christmas Hampers for families to be made. A big thank you to Charlie Lunn and his family for their very generous donation, lots of families will benefit greatly.

Advent Prayers and Reflections - Just a reminder to all Chaplaincy Captains/Leaders from St. Patrick's House to meet outside Mrs. Ackred's office Friday 14th December at 2p.m., St. Sebastian's and St. Vincent's to meet on Monday 17th December at 2 p.m. and all Chaplaincy Captains/Leaders from all houses to meet in the Chapel on Tuesday 18th December at 2.00 p.m.

English Booster Class - There will be no KS3 English Booster Class on Tuesday 18 December 2018. Mr Robinson and Mrs Caten look forward to resuming the class on Tuesday 8 January 2019

Hamper Donations – Thank you to all the generous families who donated gifts for the hampers for the raffle. Thank you also to Mrs Twine and all the members of the Friends of St Thomas More group who go above and beyond and work tirelessly to support our students and the school.

Charity gig: 22nd December Chinneries. In memory of Lorraine Kelly, a music teacher who taught some violin at the school, who sadly passed away this year. She was a member of Irish folk/rock band, Dirty Water, who will be playing their Irish/ Pogues classics on 22nd, including a great rendition of Fairy Tale of New York to bring in the Christmas cheer. All money raised is going to Havens Hospices. Tickets available at <https://www.seetickets.com/event/dirty-water/chinneries/1288897>



Catholic History Walks

London at Christmas and the New Year – Sunday 16th December and Wednesday 2nd January, both at 3pm. Join us for a seasonal walk through Westminster and Victoria, taking in Christmas trees and crib scenes. Meet at Westminster Cathedral. Nearest tube: Victoria.

The Tower and City of London – Sunday 13th and 20th January 2019 at 3pm. Walk through the ancient City of London, to the Tower, exploring its turbulent history, with the story of heroes like St Thomas More and St John Fisher. Meet at Monument tube station.

A Royal Walk – Sunday 27th January 2019 at 3pm. Explore the world of the Catholic, politics and monarchy, as we walk through political Westminster to Buckingham Palace. Meet on the steps of Westminster Cathedral. Nearest tube: Victoria.

Richmond-Upon-Thames – Sunday 17th February 2019 at 3:30pm. Discover this riverside town and its Catholic history, with its pre-Emancipation Catholic presences and site of a royal palace. Meet at St Elizabeth's Church, The Vineyard, Richmond, TW10 6AQ. Nearest tube station: Richmond.

Contact chwalks@gmail.com or find us on Facebook or see catholichistorywalks.com Cost £5, concessions available. Please wear suitable footwear and plan for the weather. Walks may take up to two hours.

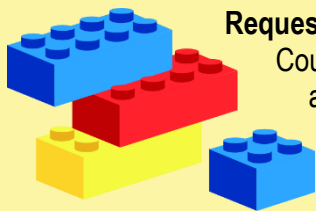


Volunteering - On Sunday 9th December students were provided with an opportunity to volunteer at an event organised by the parishioners of St Helens in Westcliff. The volunteers helped in the preparation and serving of a Christmas meal for those whom may be going through a difficult period. In true Tommy More spirit the boys put in a long shift, arriving at 10.30am to help decorate the hall to then serving the meals throughout the day, finishing at 3.30pm. It was a very full on day with many of the boys not finding a moment to sit down. Special thanks to the students for all of their hardwork and to Mr O'Connell and Miss Greene. For anyone interested in volunteering at future events relating to Social Justice in the area please do come and speak to me. Mr Baird (Justice and Peace Group).

Care Home Visit - On Wednesday morning, a group of 6th Formers and staff visited Admirals Court to spread a little festive cheer. The group performed a selection of Christmas carols and well known Christmas songs such as "Frosty the snowman" and "Rudolph the red nose reindeer" to a group of residents, concluding with members of the choir singing an acapella rendition of the well-received "Mary did you know". The songs were enjoyed with many of the residents joining in with the singing and dancing along. This was followed by the group spending some time with the residents, talking to them about their lives. The students said they gained so much from the experience with many expressing an interest in doing more in future. Many thanks goes to Mrs Vickery for making this opportunity possible. Our thanks go to all the student volunteers for bringing joy to the residents and to Mrs Webb, Mrs Maxfield, Mr Baird for accompanying the students. We



would also like to express our thanks to Mrs Webb and Scarlett Reeve for preparing the music for the event. We encourage all students to get involved in any future event as something so simple can bring so much joy to people who need it most. Mr Baird.



Request for Lego for the Lego Club - The School Council have recently had many suggestions for a Lego club to be part of games club. Unfortunately, the school does not own any Lego and therefore donations are required to make this feasible. Any donation of Lego

would be very greatly appreciated, please hand your donations into the Library where they will be collected by the student council and put into games club. Thank you, on behalf of the School Council.



Come and Sing Messiah - A stunning opportunity. The chance to sing Handel's Messiah with professional soloists and orchestra in a Cathedral is on that many amateur singers covet. On 15th December at Brentwood Cathedral they have an opportunity to realise that dream. A specially formed choir will rehearse in the afternoon and perform the complete Messiah to an audience in the evening, accompanied by a first-class orchestra and a high quality line up of soloists. It will be no ordinary performance as it will be conducted by Andrew Wright, the Cathedral's Director of Music. Booking is now open and you can download the booking form from the Cathedral website or book by contacting David Worsfold on 01277 221445 or email david.worsfold@zen.co.uk

CAREERS

Apprenticeships - A range of Apprenticeship opportunities are now open at GSK including finance, IT and Engineering. For more information on the different levels and to apply visit - <http://uk.gsk.com/en-gb/careers/apprenticeships/>

Work Experience - Are you Year 12 and looking for Work Experience in Law? Pinsent Masons offers week long Work Experience placements aimed at providing students interested in a legal career with an overview of what life in a commercial law firm is really like. Dates for 2019 can be found on their website along with more information <https://graduate.pinsentmasons.com/programmes/school-work-experience-placements/>

Careers Morning - Final reminder for those interested in the forthcoming Careers Morning on 12th February 2019 at Southend University Hospital for those in year 11-13 with a keen interest in medicine. The deadline for registration is 21st December so please let me know if you are interested. Mrs Griffiths.

Ford Motor Company Workshop - Last Tuesday, 30 pupils from Year 10 to Year 13 took part in a Workshop run by the Ford Motor Company. In a 'Dragons Den' meets the 'The Apprentice' style workshop, pupils competed in teams of 6



with the aim to develop a proposal for their own 'special edition' car. Each team was mentored



by a member from the Ford Motor Company. They were presented with

the challenge of analysing financial data about the car manufacturing industry using information given, regarding the target market, to develop their proposals Lewis Thacker, a sales executive from the local Kent Elms Ford branch, brought two demonstration vehicles and guided the students through some of the latest technology available, allowing them to make informed choices when specifying their own models.

Students brought together their skills in Business, D&T, ICT and Maths, working in competition with each other to collate ideas and pitch these in the form of a PowerPoint presentation to peers and the mentors from the Ford team.

The winning team comprised of Alfie Waghorn (Year 13), Teejay Chiororo (Year 12), Csaba Nemeth (Year 12), Josh Lehané and Gjorel Salvador-Regalado (both Year 11). A huge congratulations to those who won, and to those who took part. We as staff, as well as our visitors, were incredibly impressed with the innovation and perseverance our students demonstrated, and hope to welcome more exciting opportunities like this in the future. Ms M Griffiths, Mr R Leamy

Spanish Club



Practise your Spanish speaking and writing skills with Señora Williams in MFL1

| Club | Day | Time | Who for |
|------------------------|----------|-------------|------------------|
| Spanish Beginners | Monday | 13:35-14:00 | KS3 / Y7 |
| Spanish Conversation | Tuesday | 15:30-16:30 | KS4 / Y9-Y11 |
| Spanish Grammar Skills | Thursday | 13:35-14:00 | KS3-KS4 / Y8-Y11 |
| Spanish Conversation | Thursday | 15:30-16:30 | KS4 / Y10-Y11 |

SPORTS NEWS



87
ST
FUT

Emmanuel Nwachokor

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 90 PAC | 86 DRI |
| 77 SHO | 50 DEF |
| 78 PAS | 81 PHY |

PE Students of the Week - Our two winners this week are Matheus of Year 8 and Emmanuel of Year 7. Matheus wins for his great efforts in KS3 PE lessons and his commitment to attending extra-curricular Football sessions run by Southend FC each week. Emmanuel has been a fantastic player for the school football team this term and has also taken it upon himself to do some research on table tennis in preparation for next term! Well done to both boys.



84
CDM
FUT

Matheus Santos Couto

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 84 PAC | 82 DRI |
| 81 SHO | 67 DEF |
| 79 PAS | 90 PHY |

Year 9 Essex cup vs King John: Won 63-37 - The defending Essex Cup champions secured a second convincing win in the pool stage of this year's competition. And all round team performance led by Ukegheson and Ashaolu saw the STM side gain a substantial lead by the second half. The high octane play of the home side provided the crowd with several highlights as this team has set their sights on nothing less than defending their crown again this year !
GL

Year 11 National Cup Football v St Joseph's - Won 1-0 - Year 11 produced their best performance of the season to secure their place in the last 32 of the National Cup competition. Every single player raised their game to out-fight the strong and well-drilled team from Croydon. Both teams had chances in the first half with Adams and Salter going close for us whilst Pitcher made a great save to keep the scores level. STM dominated possession at the start of the second half and were rewarded with a fantastic goal from Barry from a cross by Banks, who took the ball down and slotted it in

to the far corner. St Joseph's rallied but didn't really create any meaningful chances, mostly due to the disciplined defensive performance from the four at the back. We now go on to play Hall Mead for a place in the last 16.

Year 7 Junior NBA Basketball - The Year 7 team competed in their first fixtures of this exciting new competition that pits teams from all over the county in an NBA style format. This year we are the Dallas Mavericks and last night we took on Eastwood and Jo Richardson in the first mini-tournament. We lost by 3 baskets in our first match to Eastwood, a game we could and perhaps should have won. In our second match we triumphed 18-9 over our host Jo Richardson from Barking. Well done to all the team. Keep an eye out for more reports as the season progresses.

SPORTS FIXTURES

| DATE | FIXTURE | TIME |
|------------|---|------------------|
| 17/12/2018 | Year 8 Basketball v WHSB (AWAY) Year 7 Basketball v Chase (HOME) | |
| 18/12/2018 | Staff v Boys Football | 12:45pm |
| 19/12/2018 | Staff Netball Match - 'Girls v Boys' Year 9 Essex Cup Basketball v Shoebury (HOME) | 1:30pm 4:00pm |
| 20/12/2018 | NO FIXTURES – EARLY CLOSURE | |
| 21/12/2018 | SCHOOL HOLIDAY | |

PE Extra-curricular Timetable Winter 2018

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| 8.00 - 8.30am | PE DEPARTMENT MEETING | Year 9 Futsal | All Years Cross Country Year 8 Football | Year 10 Futsal SNR Rugby | Year 7 & 8 Basketball |
| 1.40 - 2.20pm | Year 7 Basketball Year 9 Rugby | Sport Scholars Fitness | Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 9 Basketball | Year 8 Basketball | Sport Scholar Meeting Racquet Sports |
| 3.30 - 5.00pm | Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 10 & 11 Basketball Year 11 & VI Form Football Training | Year 9 Rugby Year 9 Basketball | Yr 10 Football - Week 1 SNR Rugby Year 7, 8 & 10 Southend Football - Astro | Year 7 & 8 Rugby Year 9 Football | Badminton Club (Wk 1 - Years 10 & 11) (Wk 2 - Years 7, 8 & 9) |

YEAR 11 REVISION TIMETABLE

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| AM | Computer Science - 8.00-8.45am (CR5) | GCSE/BTEC PE - 8.00-8.30 (CR8) KS5 Spanish - 3.30-4.30 (MFL1) TECH - 8.00-8.30am (TEC3) Computer Science - 8.00-8.45am (CR5) | RE - 8.00-8.30 Maths- 8.30-9.05 (sets 2&3) | English - All levels 8.00-8.30am (E5) GCSE/BTEC PE - 8.00-8.30 (CR8) KS4 Spanish - 3.30-4.30 (MFL1) | English - All levels 8.00-8.30am (E1) |
| LUNCH | English - "Aiming for a level 5" 1.30-2.00pm (E3) Chemistry 1.35-2.05pm (LAB3) | Media - Drop in 2.00-2.30pm (CR7) Science - Drop in 1.35-2.10pm (LAB 8) | D&T 1.35-2.20pm (CR8) Biology for Triple Science students - 1.40-2.20pm (LA7) English 2.00-2.25pm (MS1) | Science - Drop in 1.35-2.10pm (LAB 8) | English - Poetry Revision 1.30-2.00pm (TR7) Maths - 'Study club for all' 1.35-2.00pm (M1) Geography - 1.45-2.30pm (G1) |
| AFTER-SCHOOL | English - All levels 3.30-4.30pm (E5) English - Drop in 3.30-4.30pm (E4) D&T 3.30-4.30 (TEC1 & TEC2) ICT coursework 3.30-4.30pm (CR3) Maths - Foundation 3.30-4.30pm (LAB7) <u>Week 1 only</u> Maths - Set 1 3.30-5.00pm (M2) RE - 3.30-4.15 (RE3) | English - Drop in 3.30-4.30pm (BS3) English - Levels 5-9 3.30-4.30pm (MS1) Business Studies 3.30-4.30pm (BS1) Business Studies BTEC 3.30-4.30pm (BS2) Food Prep 3.30-4.30pm (Food tech) Maths - Set 3 3.30-5.00pm (M1) Maths - Higher Tier 3.30-4.30pm (M6) <u>Start date TBC</u> | English - All levels 3.30-4.30pm (E6) ICT coursework 3.30-4.30pm (CR3) Food Prep 3.30-4.30pm (Food tech) Maths - Set 2 & 4 3.30-4.30pm (M5) | Business Studies 3.30-4.30pm (BS1) Science 3.30-4.40pm (LAB6) Maths - Set 3 3.30-5.00pm (M1) Spanish 3.30-4.30pm (MFL1) | |