



Science

# St. Richard's Catholic College



***A High Performing Specialist Science College with Leading Edge status***

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*Principal: D. Cronin, N.P.Q.H., M.A., B.Ed.*

## Newsletter

### No. 4 - February 2012

Dear Parents/Carers

A Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope 2012 has started well for you.

I was very pleased to welcome Mr Castano to the maths department this term and I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Ms Tocknell, our new Library Co-ordinator. I hope they both have happy, fulfilling careers here in St Richard's.

This has been a short but extremely busy term. All the pupils are working hard to consolidate knowledge learnt in the winter term and many are participating in the extra-curricular programme on offer.

Our year eleven pupils seem to be working purposefully for their GCSEs with most now recognising that time is running out and therefore they need to make the most of their learning opportunities. Parents are reminded to keep an eye on the homework carried out by pupils and, in particular, upper school pupils who have revision as well as controlled assessment preparation to do. Any concerns with regard to the study habits of your son/daughter should be addressed to the subject teacher or form tutor in the first instance. Rest assured that staff will do all they can to support each child in reaching his/her potential.

You will be pleased to know that £1,333.09 was presented to Surviving Christmas on the last day of term two along with all the generous goods you donated; the Glyne Gap Special School Christmas party was a fantastic success; the Advent Service was really well-received with a message of hope for Christmas and 2012, and the ski trip in the first week of the Christmas holidays was a great success.

There have been a number of extra-curricular events this term notably: trips to the University of Sussex for science talks; an astronomy evening; the Southern Schools Book Award; a gifted and talented PE day and a visit to London for a science show. In the final week of this term, we have the KS4 music concert; the Rotary Public Speaking competition; Maths Challenge and a visit by year ten pupils to Poetry Live in Brighton. If your child is not already doing so, please encourage them to get involved in at least one extra-curricular activity.

A big fundraiser for the PTFA in term 4 is a new venture: 'An Auction of Promises' on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February. All kinds of treats are on offer to suit all price ranges so really think about coming along with a group of friends to support. All funds raised by the PTFA are spent on the children. So far this year, they have donated funds for a team kit, new basketball hoops and an IT program for use by all pupils. They are very much aware of our ambition to improve our sporting facilities with a new sports centre and they are committed to offering funds for this project. We will continue to save and beg to achieve our dream but if you do have some ideas on how we can do it sooner rather than later then please let me know. Full details of the Auction of Promises are inside this newsletter: please try to support. Every project makes a huge difference to what we can offer the pupils.

Finally, some sad news: over the Christmas holidays a former pupil, Esmé Balp, died aged 18. Esmé was a beautiful young lady, who enhanced school life with her many positive attributes and talents. She left her mark on all who knew her. We were privileged to be involved in her funeral service and I would like to thank the orchestra for leading the music. Please keep Esmé's family in your prayers at this extremely sad time for them.

I do hope you enjoy the February holiday. Term four begins on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February when the staff and I look forward to welcoming the pupils back refreshed, smartly attired and eager to face the new challenges.

Yours sincerely

D Cronin  
Principal



## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

A happy new year to you all and I hope the start of 2012 has been good to you.

The end of term three is almost upon us and I hope those who joined the college this year have settled in and are enjoying life at St Richard's.

Year 11 pupils are preparing for their GCSE examinations and I hope they are all working hard so that they reach their potential. All the other year groups should also be trying to be the best they can be.

At the beginning of March we have a visit from the Sion Youth Mission team and I hope that what they have to say is met with an open mind so that all pupils get the best from the experience.

Enjoy the break and come back refreshed for the challenges of term four.

With good wishes,

Keith Osborne, Chair of Governors

**School**

**Council**

**News**

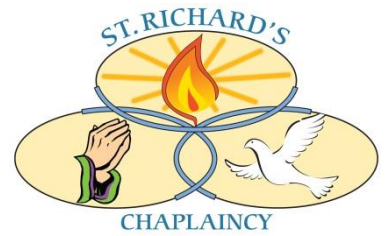
The School Council continues to make an excellent contribution to the life of the college. A great number of issues raised by the Council, in particular with regards to the canteen and building, have been resolved this year. The Council continues to discuss the views and issues of all pupils (gathered from their form by each representative) and is also now involved with improving the college website. The main focus this term is on what makes outstanding teaching and learning and pupils have already provided invaluable feedback in this area.

## Parents' Guide to the +/- profiles

1. Every pupil in every year group is given a target grade/level in each subject. These targets are based on (a) previous attainment within the college or primary school (b) CAT scores (c) professional judgement of the teacher/subject leader.
2. During the course of the academic year a range of assessment evidence is available for each pupil in all subjects. These include: formal tests/exams, coursework/controlled assessments, levelled/graded classwork and homework.
3. Each term (except term 1 for Year 7) the teacher will evaluate the progress of each pupil in their class against the target grade. If the pupil is performing above target a + will be recorded in a central folder; if on target a blank space is left; a – sign indicates a pupil performing below target.
4. Pupils indicated as performing below target are given a reason in order to allow intervention strategies to be put in place. Reasons include:
  - Poor effort (on classwork or homework)
  - Lack of understanding of a specific topic area
  - Poor attendance
  - Poor organisation
  - Poor behaviour
5. Target grades are reviewed by each department twice during the academic year.
6. Pupils receiving 3 or more + assessments are awarded a letter of commendation and certificate.
7. Pupils receiving 2 or more – assessments are sent a letter of concern to inform parents.

Please email Mr Tadros if you have any queries related to the +/- profiles system.

# Chaplaincy News



## **SION Mission**

During the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March 2012, members of the SION Community will be coming to St Richard's to lead a whole school Mission. I have included the programme for the week. Please note that on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, we have the Main Event to which parents are warmly invited. This will be a wonderful celebration and a time of renewal for all involved.

## **Bexhill Parish Mass**

We look forward to seeing many of our Bexhill Parishioners at the 9.00am Mass at St Martha's on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March, even if this is not the Mass they usually attend. Pupils will be leading the music and readings as well as being involved in the offertory and welcoming party. This is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to be recognised in their parishes as St Richard's pupils and for this reason we ask that pupils wear full school uniform.

Further information and a letter will be sent to Bexhill pupils soon. Please return the reply slip so that we have an idea of how many pupils and families will be attending.

## **Confirmation**

We keep in our prayers all those who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time, and for those who have recently been confirmed.

## **Eucharistic Minister Training**

It is the last chance for Year 11 pupils who made their confirmation last year, to express an interest in becoming a Eucharistic Minister. Training will take place in school and will enable these pupils to minister during school and parish Masses. Those wishing to train as Eucharistic Ministers must be regular Church goers and have the support of their parish priest.

## **Friday Morning Mass for staff and pupils**

Every Friday at 8.10am in the chapel. All staff and pupils are warmly invited to join us in celebrating Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community. Any pupil wishing to read or serve at this Mass should let Mr Byrne know.

Our thanks to our local priests who lead this and other school Masses.

## **Spectrum Bereavement Groups**

St Richard's is a 'RAINBOWS' school. This means that we offer a 10 week programme for pupils who have experienced a death, divorce or other painful transition in their family. The groups are called 'Spectrum' and meet for 50 minutes once a week during the school day. If you would like more information about these groups, please do not hesitate to contact me either by telephone or e-mail.

## **Spiritual Life INSET Day**

Our INSET day on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January, focused on Spirituality and Catholic Ethos. The day was led by David Wells, who is part of the Adult Formation Team of the Plymouth Diocese. It was great to be joined by members of staff from our Catholic feeder schools, who were able to share their journey and bring their perspective to the day.

Our day began with Mass and was followed by two sessions led by David Wells. During these sessions, he explored the importance and challenges of maintaining a Catholic vision in times of change. It was a wonderful day of renewal for staff, helped by the way that David managed to present his ideas with humour and honesty.

## **Towards a Fuller Life in the Holy Spirit & Life in the Spirit Seminars**

St Richard's will be hosting a series of talks and seminars by internationally known speakers and authors including Charles Whitehead and Michelle Moran. Bishop Kieran will also be leading one of these seminars. The first two sessions take place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012 from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. Further details can be found on the school website or by contacting Scott or Teresa Black on 01424 753613 or by email ([scott\\_a\\_black@hotmail.com](mailto:scott_a_black@hotmail.com)).

Finally, may I wish you and your families a happy and restful end to this term.

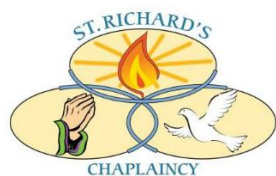
With prayers and good wishes.

Mr Byrne  
[mrbyrne@strichardsc.com](mailto:mrbyrne@strichardsc.com)

## Mission Week Timetable

	8:15	8:55	9:10	10:00	10:50 BREAK	11:05	11:55	12:45 LUNCH	13:35	14:25	15:15			
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Staff Prayer (Chapel) (8:15-8:25)	Registration (8:55-9:30)	9:30	10:15	11:00	11:15	12:00	Year 8 Sign up	Yr 10 classrooms	Yr 9 classrooms	Yr 8 classrooms	Yr 7 classrooms	Staff Social (15:35-16:35)	Team leave 18:30
			Yrs 7 & 8 Assembly (Hall)	Yrs 9 & 10 Assembly (Hall)	Year 7 Sign up	Yr 11 Assembly (Hall)	Team Time		Yr 11 classrooms					
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Prayer (Chapel) (8:15-8:25)	Registration	Yr 11 Assembly (Hall)	Yrs 9 & 10 Assembly (Hall)	Year 9 Sign up	Yrs 7 & 8 Assembly (Hall)	Yr 7 Workshops	Time out with God (Chapel) (13:10)	Yr 8 Workshops	Prayer For You (Chapel)	Team rehearse in school	Team Social 18:30		
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Prayer (Chapel) (8:15-8:25)		Yrs 7 & 8 Assembly (Hall)	Yrs 9 & 10 Assembly (Hall)	Year 10 Sign up	Yr 11 Assembly (Hall)	Yr 9 Workshops	Time out with God (Chapel) (13:10)	Musicians for mass meet (Hall)	Prayer For You (Chapel)	Pupil Social (15:30-17:00)	Team leave 19:00		
			Reconciliation						Reconciliation					
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Prayer (Chapel) (8:15-8:25)		Yrs 7 & 8 Assembly (Hall)	Yrs 9 & 10 Assembly (Hall)	Year 11 Sign up	Yr 11 Assembly (Hall)	Yr 10 Workshops	Time out with God (Chapel) (13:10)	Yr 11 Workshops	Prayer For You (Chapel)	The Main Event 19:30	Team leave 22:00		
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Staff Prayer (Chapel) (8:15-8:25)		Mass Prep	Yr 7 & 8 Mass (Hall) 9:40 – 10:50		Mass Prep	Yr 9 & 10 Mass (Hall) 11:35 – 12:45		Mass Prep	Yr 11 Mass (Hall) 14:05-15:15	Team pack up & depart	Team leave 18:30		

## **News from the Liturgy Rep Team**



At St. Richard's there is a liturgy rep from each form in all year groups who helps to organise spiritual and liturgical events in the college. Since September, a range of activities and events have taken place at St Richard's involving the pupils on the liturgy rep team. We would like to share with you some examples of our work so far this year.

Friday morning masses have taken place at 8:10am and pupils from all year groups and staff are welcome. The masses are set up on a Thursday after school by two volunteers from the liturgy rep team. In addition to the Friday morning masses, there is now a Monday morning prayer time (during registration) in the chapel led by a former St. Richard's pupil and pupils from all year groups are welcome.

In the run up to Christmas, each form was invited to create an 'Advent door' which included a spiritual picture on the outside and a prayer or reflection on the inside. A good number of advent doors were created and well done to the forms which made more than one. In preparation for Christmas, reps helped to run a Fairtrade store with Mrs Herring and Mrs Forster-Simmons, selling Christmas gifts and cards. The Fairtrade stall was also run by reps at the Prospective Pupils and Parents Open Evening and the Year 7 Consultation Evening.

We have all enjoyed being liturgy reps this year and everyone has had a responsibility whether it was setting up for morning mass or sitting in and giving feedback on the assemblies led by prospective Lay Chaplains. What we have most enjoyed so far is being able to contribute to greater aspects of school life and represent our forms and the liturgy rep team through the activities we have organised and taken part in.

Next term, the liturgy rep team plans to continue to help with the setting up and preparation for masses but we also want to let our parishes know about the liturgical aspects which are taking place at St Richard's through termly feedback given by the liturgy rep team. Another aim for next term is to supply every classroom with prayers and crucifixes for their designated liturgy board/area.

Francesca Smith and Lydia Dargan  
(Liturgy Reps from year 9)

## **Modern Languages News**

### French Club

The Lower School French Club has been learning about the Epiphany and "King Cake" tradition celebrated in France at this time of year. This theme for January has included interactive games, learning the language associated with the Epiphany celebrations as well as individual and group quizzes to practise what the pupils have learnt about this special tradition in France. We enjoyed sharing our own "galette des rois" cakes, kindly brought from France by Mrs Herring, and discovering who had the hidden charm in their cake. This year, the lucky recipients were year 7 pupil, Megan McHale and year 10 French Club helper, Cathy Tojo.



In February, we are preparing for our own "Mardi Gras" carnival which is another annual French tradition before the start of Lent. It has been great to see some new faces joining us this term. Any other lower school pupils interested in joining us every Tuesday from 1pm in B14, please see Miss Chong. Finally, many thanks go to the year 10 helpers: Ben, Tasmin, Roberta, Emmilie, Cathy and Elizabeth for their commitment and enthusiasm in leading activities.



### "Happy New Year" from around the world

Well done to the many pupils who came along to take part with great enthusiasm and interest in the lunchtime "Taster Language" event at the end of last term. It was fantastic to see pupils from all years making the most of the opportunity to learn how to wish each other "a Happy New Year" as well as communicate other festive phrases in different languages spoken by members of our school community.

Having learnt festive phrases in a different language, pupils queued up enthusiastically at the "judges" table to be tested on their new knowledge. A lot of linguistic successes led to rewards of festive foods from around the world. This year's event saw pupils sharing their knowledge of Arabic, Malayalam, Tagalog, Polish, Spanish, German, French, and Portuguese.

Many thanks go to all those pupils with knowledge of other languages who took part by giving their time to prepare and lead the event.



## YEAR 7 NEWS

As we finish term three and approach the second half of Year Seven I would like to report to parents how impressed I have been with the year group. The vast majority of pupils have well and truly embraced the school's ethos and have contributed a great deal to college life. As always, I have a few notices and pleas for parents to be aware of and act upon:

- Lost property remains an issue for some of our young people. To aid myself and staff, could parents/carers clearly label all clothing and reinforce the notion of storing coats or PE kits in lockers. It has been an all too familiar occurrence of pupils telling me 'I only left it on the playground' and, on being asked when they left it there, they reply 'last week!'
- Prep Club runs Monday-Thursday until 5pm and is a valuable resource on offer. Pupils do not need to book places and can leave after they have finished their work.
- Our new cashless system is running effectively. However, can I ask parents to make sure they have explained budgeting for the week to their children as some pupils are over spending at the start of the week and having little or nothing left at the end of the week. If you have any questions with regard to school dinners or the breakfast service please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **Feedback from Parents Consultation Evening**

Thank you, once again, for your feedback from December's Year 7 Consultation Evening. Your views are always appreciated. I have outlined the main findings and answered some of the queries raised below. If you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

- Parents/carers were asked how well their children had settled into St Richard's and the responses were: 84% 'Very Well', 16% 'Well' and 0% 'Not so well'.
- There were over 100 comments made about what pleased you with the transition programme. The main points raised were that visits to primary schools by the transition team and myself were valuable as pupils and parents/carers had a point of contact and were familiar with the staff and ethos of the college. Expectations were clear from the start of Year Seven. Communication between college and home is strong. Taster days are a great idea. Extra tours of the college in the summer terms were useful and pupils being guided to lessons for the first two weeks was beneficial.
- Parents/carers were also asked if they had any suggestions to improve the transition programme. Responses included: 'More time with pupils from 'non feeder' schools'. This is an area which I have looked at very closely over the past few years. Pupils who attend a 'non feeder' school are all visited and have more 1:1 time than pupils who attend our 'feeder' schools. I will spend approximately 30-45 minutes with them going through their questions and prompting them on our expectations. Additionally, we provide small guided tours of the college by Student Listeners for pupils, and parents are welcome to have coffee and ask staff questions regarding school life. Parents/carers can additionally ask for a 1:1 tour of the college with a member of the leadership team and we have two days of 'New Intake' for pupils to start to make friends and get used to life at St Richard's. This year's Year Seven pupils came from 24 different primary schools.
- Parents/carers were also asked how long their child spends on homework. Responses varied but on the whole parents/carers indicated that their child was spending the right amount of time doing homework. If parents/carers have concerns over homework please be proactive in contacting subject staff. Easy ways to contact subject teachers are via the journal or via email (links available on our website). Please also remember Prep Club runs Monday-Thursday until 5pm and is a valuable resource on offer. Pupils do not need to book places and can leave after they have finished their work.
- Parents/carers were asked whether they felt their son/daughter is safe at St Richard's. 98% replied 'Yes' and 2% replied 'Sometimes'. If you do have any concerns regarding your child's safety please contact the college straight away.
- Parents/carers were also asked if they had any concerns regarding bullying, transport, school meals and the curriculum. Firstly, if you feel your child is experiencing bullying please contact me straight away. We have a zero tolerance policy on bullying and no pupil should feel unhappy at school. Conduct on public transport should be of an excellent standard. We have Prefects on the buses and trains to support us but we need everyone working together to alert us if there is a problem. Again, please contact me directly if you have any concerns here. With regard to the cost of transport and routes of buses we have little control. We did lobby really hard for the provision of subsidies to continue for Faith schools but the decision was out of our hands.
- Parents/carers were very positive in response to the question about pupil behaviour. A few parents/carers commented that they felt that Year Seven had to queue for too long at lunch-time and that there is no food left. Can I assure you that by 1:05 all pupils have been through the queue system and that there is always a choice of main meal left.
- Finally, parents/carers have requested an extra-curricular club list for Terms 3 & 4. The pupils were given a list in the first week of this term and the list is also on our website within the extra-curricular drop down menu at the top of the page. It is also available overleaf. I hope to see everyone getting involved!

## Year 7 Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Art Club (Art1)	Art Club (Art1) Eco Club (Lab 6) French Club (B14) Board Games Club (Lab 4)	Art Club (Art1) Young Voices (Choir)	Art Club (Art1) Science Club (Lab 3) Board Games Club (Lab 4) Drama Club Table Tennis Club Glee Club (All)	Art Club (Art1)
After School	Prep Club 3:15- 5:00  Gymnastics	Prep Club 3:15- 5:00 Dance Troupe Football Club (girls) Badminton Club Basketball Club Media Club Orchestra	Prep Club 3:15- 5:00  Chess Club Running Club Tech Club* Netball Club	Prep Club 3:15- 5:00 Rugby Club Strategy Games Club Geocache Club	Football Club (boys)

\* Finishing off practical work with Mrs Robertson

\*\* Geocache Club is a treasure hunt Science/ Geography club

### Children of UK Service Personnel

Following an announcement from the Government, the college can benefit financially from a premium which is now given for children of service families. Please inform the college asap if this is the case for your family.

## YEAR EIGHT NEWS

### Year 8 Talent Show

The year 8 Talent Show took place on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January in the college hall. A great show of support from the year group resulted in almost 90 pupils coming along to watch the talent on show!

We were treated to an array of different acts and the year 10 judges had a difficult decision in deciding the winner, runner up and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Congratulations and thank you to all who took part and to all who came along and supported the event. £87 was raised for charity.

The results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place - Isobel Boreham (8M)  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Miriam Calis (8A)  
3<sup>rd</sup> place - Jonathan Clare (8C)

### Be the Best You Can Be

Our year 8 pupils are continuing to engage in the BTBYCB programme. The weekly quizzes are proving to be challenging, competitive and fun and pupils are continuing to be encouraged to attend extra-curricular clubs.

The pupils are striving for credits and 'points' with the aim of winning the 'Points Cup', currently held by 8C.

During PSHEe and year assemblies we have continued to examine Olympic values, linking it to heroes and heroines and 'how well I use my time'. For the rest of the term pupils will experience 'coaching and mentoring'. During term 4 we will be looking at road safety with PC Ellis and Elaine Wink (East Sussex Fire Rescue Service), careers, and drug and alcohol awareness. We will also be celebrating our Year Service.

Congratulations to the 66 pupils who received a Certificate of Commendation in January. Well done!



Miss Easton

## YEAR NINE NEWS

I was very pleased with year 9's performance in the last round of plus/minus profiles, with 89 pupils being presented with a 'plus' certificate. I was also very pleased with pupils who converted a minus from the previous round into a plus this round.

I thank you for your attendance at the year 9 Curriculum Evening and for all the practical and enquiring questions asked.

I am pleased that year 9 remain eager and hard-working but would like to urge them to continue collecting their prize points and receiving their rewards. I have so far sent 32 postcards home and this is a good indicator of year 9's pleasing attitude.

Next term, in PSHEe, pupils will be studying the topic: 'Citizen of the World', looking at the role and rights of the individual and producing an extended piece of work on the success or failure of the UN since its inception in 1948.

If you have any issues you would like to raise, including regarding KS4 options, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Doherty

### Eco Schools

As part of Science week, Thursday 15th March is Green Day, our annual Eco awareness day. There will be competitions and prizes available on the day, as well as the mysterious 'Extreme Growing' in every classroom.

Congratulations to the year 7 pupils who used fancy dress and considerable persistence to collect change on the year 7 consultation evening. Thanks to their efforts, Mr Avery now has enough money to sponsor an endangered animal for a year.

### Fairtrade Fortnight (27 Feb - 11 March)



For Fairtrade Fortnight 2012, the Fairtrade Foundation is asking everyone to "take a step for Fairtrade". It can be a simple step like swapping your tea to Fairtrade tea, or a bigger step, like asking everyone in your office to do it too.

Once you have taken a step forward towards a fairer world you can register your step at [fairtrade.org.uk/step](http://fairtrade.org.uk/step). All pupils will receive an email containing a link to a 'footprint' on P drive, on which they can write and save their pledges. Some of the pledges will be displayed on the screens around the college.

During this fortnight, pupils will have the opportunity to write their pledges on their own footprint and they will be able to buy some Fairtrade products at lunch-time.

Please note that a Fairtrade stall is usually available during Parent Consultation Evenings.

Forthcoming events:

- Mr Tadros, Subject Leader for science, will be organising a bike ride (date to be confirmed) to promote Fairtrade across Hastings, Bexhill and Eastbourne.
- Tom Palmer, British author, will be visiting us on 2<sup>nd</sup> March to talk to some of our pupils about one of his recent books, 'Offside' and will be discussing Fairtrade, reading, writing and football.
- Bexhill College is holding a Fairtrade Fashion Show on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7.30pm. Some of our year 10 will be taking to the catwalk. Talk to your friends and family about it. It's a great evening out.

Mrs Herring



## YEAR 10 NEWS

Year 10 are currently working on their work experience preparation in their PHSEe lessons, focusing on skills needed to produce a CV and letters of application. The pupils will then continue in PSHEe with a scheme of work on emotional health and well-being, which includes a section on domestic violence supported by Penny Beale, a speaker, who sadly lost her daughter in this way. Further information can be found on Penny's website [www.pennybealememorialfund.org](http://www.pennybealememorialfund.org).

Year 10 are also currently completing their interim reports which you will receive next week. Please take careful note of target grades and whether or not your son/daughter is likely to reach them. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with the subject teacher if you have a concern over a particular issue and if you are worried about a number of subjects please make an appointment with myself at the college to discuss a plan of intervention and support. It is crucial at this time that your son /daughter is on task to achieve their potential in all subjects.

I was extremely proud of all the year 10 pupils who fundraised so kindly for the Glyne Gap Special School Christmas party and for those who attended the event and proved themselves to be such fantastic and energetic helpers. We hope to go back to the school and deliver a teddy's picnic party next term.

A reminder to please e-mail or telephone the college if you wish to speak to me about your son/daughter's progress or well-being in year 10, however minor the issue. I will always be very happy to talk it through with you.

Mrs Bligh

## YEAR 11 NEWS

### **Transition to Further Education**

All of the Further Education colleges started interviewing pupils in January. For those pupils living outside Bexhill interviews were arranged for most pupils during the school day on 24<sup>th</sup> January. Each FE college processes applications in different ways and at different speeds. Equally, interviews can be spread over a long period of time. The FE colleges do not inform the school when they invite a pupil to interview. This makes it particularly important that you and your child are proactive in chasing up the FE college if you have not been notified of an interview date. When we process the applications they are dispatched with a reference and the correct grades already. Any pupil attending an interview should be in school uniform and take their Progress File with them (this has been prepared in PSHEe).

### **PSHEe**

At this stage of the year the PSHEe schedule is focused on economic health and well-being. As young people already in or soon to enter, at least part-time employment, it is very important that an understanding of credit management and other financial issues is beginning to develop. If your son or daughter does not already have a bank or building society account they may well soon be talking with you about opening one. This unit also explores issues of gambling addiction.

Following on from economic health and well-being, we will be learning about issues relating to democracy and justice.

### **Examinations**

Congratulations to all of the early entry mathematicians on their success last term, and best wishes to those pupils who took modules for GCSE examinations in January. The natural inclination is for a pupil to now focus solely on the conclusion of controlled assessments, postponing any idea of revision. However, it is very important that small and regular doses of revision be taking place from now on. The college website includes links to a presentation about revision technique and The Good Learning Guide, with lots of ideas about keeping revision effective. Please support your son or daughter by insisting on them creating and maintaining a revision schedule throughout Terms 3, 4 and 5.

Mr Calladine-Evans

# Ski Trip

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 74 pupils and 9 adults set off on a 20 hour coach journey to the Alpendorff ski region in Sankt Johann, Austria. Excitement within the group was growing and the first sight of snow in Germany put a smile on everyone's face. The activities included 6 full days skiing. All pupils were assessed and put into groups depending on their ability. Beginners learnt how to ski on snow and by the third day all beginner groups were off the nursery slopes and getting the chair lift up to the top of the first mountain. Intermediate and advanced groups were taught how to improve their skills and many were taught how to jump. They covered miles skiing each day.

Towards the end of the week, each team had a slalom race. The top three groups raced down the professional slalom and the top three fastest pupils in each group received medals at the prize giving ceremony on the Thursday evening. Winners included: Andrew McGrath, Tom Gwynne, Hamish Mardell, Annie Blizard, Jack Cartwright, Elliot Stone, Daniel McKenna, and the overall winner of the week, Claire McGregor. Each evening there was a different activity: sledging, shopping, keggeling (traditional Austrian bowling), curling and visiting the thermal pools which was most people's favourite evening activity. We also had a big party on the final night.

Once again we stayed in the Lehengut hotel, about a 15 minute coach journey from the resort. Rasie and her team made us very welcome as always and the food was delicious and plentiful; just what we needed after a hard day's skiing.

The pupils gained a lot from their week of skiing. They all stuck together and looked after each other when they fell over or found a technique difficult. I was very impressed with their maturity and it was obvious that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a fantastic week full of laughter, competition and friendship.

The homeward journey began on 23<sup>rd</sup> December and we arrived back at school at 11:00am Christmas Eve, just in time for Christmas and a chance for everyone to relax and rest their ski legs before school started again on 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

In many ways it was a perfect week. There were some initial worries about snow conditions but these were soon dispelled as a week before we arrived, the heavens opened. There was snow and plenty of it. In fact we had two days of heavy snow while the rest of the week was sunny. The conditions were fantastic, some of the best we have ever had. The whole trip was injury free and we had no visits to the hospital.

Finally my thanks must go to the staff: Mr Byrne, Mr Heseltine, Mr Varney, Mr Bligh, Mr Holloway, Mrs Holloway, Mrs Douglin and Miss Kent who made the week such a success. The whole week ran smoothly and without hiccup due to the experience and commitment within our team.

Mrs Byrne



## ~ Library News ~

Hello! I am your new librarian at St Richard's. My name is Ms Tocknell, and I'd like to thank everyone for their warm welcome to the school. I'd especially like to thank our pupil librarians for their enthusiasm and commitment to the library and the services we provide.

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> January saw the launch of the 1066 Schools' Book Award at Helenswood School. We have 10 children taking part in this Reading Award, and 5 accompanied me to the launch – we all really enjoyed it! Voting for our favourite of the books will take place at the end of March. If you'd like to read along with us, or even just try one of the books, the titles are as follows: *The Boy in the Dress* by David Walliams; *A Good Clean Edge* by Vincent Caldey; *Where I Belong* by Gilliam Cross and *My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece* by Annabel Pitcher.

I look forward to expanding and refining the resources in the library, and improving access to reading for information, exploration and leisure for our whole community here at St. Richard's!

## Reading – ‘a night to remember’

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January, a dark and chilly night, hordes of teenagers determinedly moving towards a gothic building on the south coast...yes, Roedean was hosting the eighth Southern School Book Awards (SSBA) and there was even a horror book on the shortlist!

St Richard's attended with a group of pupils who had completed their reviews first. This was the culmination of a term involved in the Southern Schools' Book Award.

This year's shortlisted novels were *Being Billy* by Phil Earle, *Ghost of a Chance* by Rhiannon Lassiter, *Wasted* by Nicola Morgan, *The Double Life of Cassiel Roadnight* by Jenny Valentine and *Numbers Two: the Chaos* by Rachel Ward.

The SSBA presentation evening, enthusiastically hosted by last year's winner Lucy Christopher, was attended by 290 pupils and staff from 34 state and independent schools in Kent and Sussex. The pupils, mostly aged 13 to 14, had read and voted for all five titles on the shortlist and were on the edge of their theatre seats, anticipating the results of the voting.

The authors read extracts from their books and answered intriguing questions posed by the pupils. Author Nicola Morgan played several rounds of Jack's game of chance with the audience where pupils had to guess whether a coin had landed heads or tails. The winner was Kyle from Hove Park school who won a copy of 'Blame My Brain'.

After the schools had received their book tokens, the gold and silver envelopes were produced with a flourish and the tension was palpable as Lucy requested the traditional drum roll just before revealing the results. The winner of the 2011 award was Jenny Valentine with *The Double Life of Cassiel Roadnight*. The Highly Commended category was awarded to *Numbers Two: the Chaos* by Rachel Ward.

We highly recommend these books to Key Stage three pupils, though some are a little mature in theme.

Mrs Midghall  
Subject Leader for English

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### KS4 Concert

On Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, at 7.00pm in the college hall, members of the year 10 and 11 GCSE music groups, as well as the orchestra and string orchestra, will be performing a varied programme of music for your enjoyment.



Tickets are: Family £5, Adult £2, Concessions £1. They are available from the music department, or on the door.

We do hope you are able to come and enjoy the evening with us. It is a wonderful opportunity for our GCSE musicians to show you some of their coursework.



### Plea for Instruments

The department could make very good use of any unused/unwanted/retired musical instruments, music stands etc. that you may have 'gathering dust' at home! If you have anything that you would kindly consider donating to us, we would be very grateful. Please contact me via reception or by email if you are able to help.

Many thanks.

Mr Roadknight  
Subject Leader for Music

# Charity Barn Dance

featuring

## The Catsfield Steamers

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March

at

St Richard's Catholic College, Ashdown Road, Bexhill-on-Sea

7.00- 11.00 pm

Tickets: £15 includes Ploughmans supper, under 16s £10



We are parents of year 11 pupils (Sam & Maddie Wilson, Nicole Maynard), who have taken on the challenge of raising money for cancer charities by cycling 350km in 33° heat in rural India!!

As part of our fundraising we would like to invite you to our Barn Dance & Supper. So please join us or why not make a table of 6 or 8 with some friends.

Contact Caroline Maynard 01424 214688 [caroline.maynard1@btopenworld.com](mailto:caroline.maynard1@btopenworld.com) or Ann Wilson 01424 846708 [timandannwilson@hotmail.com](mailto:timandannwilson@hotmail.com)

## GCSE History: Resources

To support your child in their study of GCSE History you may choose to purchase a revision resource or supplementary text. Should you like to order through the college then we can supply four resources that you may find beneficial, including the textbooks used in class and a revision resource. These books are not compulsory for your son/daughter, but they may help aid and support their learning. The resources available are listed on the reply slip below.

If you would like to make an order, please complete the slip below and return to Mrs Campbell with a cheque made payable to St Richard's Catholic College for the amount due, by **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**.

I hope this will be of help to you and your son/daughter. Should you have any questions regarding resources or support for GCSE History, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs R Campbell

✂

### GCSE History Resources Order

Please return to Mrs Campbell, A11

Pupil's Name: ..... Form: .....

I would like to order the following resource/s:

Resource	Tick	Price
Germany 1919-1945, class textbook		£12.00
Vietnam, class textbook to support the Controlled Assessment		£10.00
Edexcel Medicine and Surgery		£13.00
Edexcel Exam Skills Extend:		£4.00
Edexcel Exam Skills Support		£4.00
	TOTAL	

I include a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to St Richard's Catholic College.

Signed: ..... Parent/ Carer

# SCIENCE NEWS



## 'Uncaged Monkeys: A Night of 100 Billion Stars'

Un-caged Monkeys at the Apollo was, to put it briefly, unforgettable. We got to hear from Ben Goldacre, Simon Singh, Robin Ince and Brian Cox giving us live talks on fascinating topics such as the Enigma machine, the value of truly randomized tests and The Large Hadron Collider. There was also an emotional video compilation on all of the shuttle expeditions, science themed ukulele songs and Tim Minchin performing live to us with the help of Ed Sheeran!

One of our favourite quotes from Emily was 'I made sure I saw Brian, Tim and Ed with my own eyes by lifting up my glasses to see their beautiful faces... I mean I didn't see much, they were just blurs but still...' We would recommend anyone to go on a trip like this when the opportunity comes again because we were thoroughly amazed, amused and astounded, despite getting back very late! By Arielle and Emily

## St Richards' 'Star Party'

In association with BBC's Stargazing Live events the Year 9 Astronomy group hosted an evening of hands-on activities in the laboratories and an 'Introduction to Astronomy' talk given by Simon Allen of East Sussex Astronomical Society.

Despite the poor weather precluding any use of the telescopes, nearly 50 friends, family and ESAS members enjoyed the festivities. Many thanks to all who supported the event.



## Institute of Physics Talk, University of Sussex

In this month's talk Professor Niall Tanvir continued the 'Stargazing', with a lecture entitled 'Blasts from the past: using cosmic explosions to explore the distant universe'. This quick fire summary of the mysteries of deepest space gave the Gifted and Talented Year 11 Science pupils an introduction to physics topics they will encounter in Physics A level studies. The GCSE Astronomy pupils in attendance found the talk to be particularly relevant as the Gamma Ray Bursts discussed in detail will be coming up in lessons soon!

\*\*\*\*\* STOP PRESS \*\*\*\*\*

## Space Camp 2012

We now have a full crew of budding astronauts ready for our trip to Belgium on March 30th. Will parents and carers please note that the date for the next parents' meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7.00 p.m. in the library.



## Ethical Eden Residential Trip 2012

\*\*\* 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2012 \*\*\*

Science, RE and the Sustainable Schools team are delighted to offer pupils the opportunity to spend an ethical adventure weekend in Cornwall. Staying in converted barns on an organic beef farm, the trip includes a visit to the Eden Project, a tour of the farm, www (wonderful woodland walks!) and either abseiling, surfing or archery on the Cornish coast. See Dr. Durkin in Lab.6 for more details and a letter.

## Congratulations

to

Oliver Fathers who has been selected to represent England in a karate tournament in Switzerland in March. We wish him good luck.

## RE Department News

The RE Department has this year restructured some of the topics in Key Stage 3 and the exam courses in Key Stage 4.

In Year 7, pupils learn about New Beginnings (Bible and Church), The Reason for the Season (Christian seasons and festivals), Call to Change (Sacraments), Jesus our saviour (Lent and Easter), Faith into action (CAFOD and Catholic Social Teaching), and Sikhism (Major World religion).

In Year 8, pupils learn about Judaism (Major World religion), Roots (Church history), Philosophy, God is calling you (discipleship, vocation, and the priesthood), Images of perfection (disability awareness), and Islam (Major World religion)

In Year 9, all pupils study Mark's Gospel from terms 1 to 4 and Bereavement and Hinduism (Major World religion) in the last two terms.

In Year 10, we have started a new and interesting course 'Religion and Society' which covers issues related to Christianity and Islam such as: Rights and Responsibilities, Environmental and Medical ethics, Peace and Conflict, and Crime and Punishment.

In Year 11, our pupils study Christianity covering topics such as: Believing in God, Matters of Life and Death, Marriage and Family life, and Community Cohesion.

The RE department also runs a variety of activities including extra-curricular pursuits for pupils to actively engage with moral, religious, ethical, and political issues. For example, we run the weekly 'Great Debate' club on Thursday lunchtimes. The topics are chosen by the pupils and generate some excellent debates. There are a variety of Inter-faith trips to different places of worship such as the year 7 visit to a Sikh Gurdwara and year 8's visit to a Greek Orthodox Church and Mosque in Brighton. We also organise some field trips for Gifted and Talented pupils such as the GCSE RS Day at Chichester Cathedral in February, and various joint trips with the Science department. Finally, we are running the annual RE Gifted and Talented Conference with our year 10 pupils in the summer term. This year the theme is the Problem of Evil and the key note speech will be led by Dorit Oliver Wolff who is a survivor of the Holocaust.

## DRAMA

### Focus on the Drama Clubs

In this issue I want to focus on the Drama clubs operating in the college. As you may be aware the department operates separate clubs for years 7, 8 and 9/10 pupils as well as a stage crew session. All of the clubs are well supported. In any one week up to seventy pupils are regular attenders.

Their specific purpose is to allow pupils who are interested to develop their performance skills and to have an opportunity to apply them in performance, so during the course of an academic year each of the clubs will aim to perform either scripted or improvised work. Last year this took the form of performances in the Expressive Arts evening in July. We hope to replicate the success of that evening this year.

The Theatre workshop for year 9/10 pupils this year will be involved in a separate and hopefully full length performance in the early summer.

### Other news

The year 11 examination group having successfully performed their Theatre in Education controlled tests are working on the next assessment task which is scripted work. The performances of these pieces are open to parents and anyone interested. These are due to take place in March, please keep an eye out for the presentation dates: they will be on the website.

Mr Fairbrass

# PTFA NEWS

Please Read Me!

**Chair:** Lisa Driver  
**Secretary:** Cathy Baker

**Vice-Chair:** Brenda Kent  
**Treasurer:** Anouschka Hood

Since the last newsletter, Ann Wilson my Co Chair has had to stand down from her position. I will continue as Chair and help drive the PTFA forward. My aim is to try and put on more fundraising events, and have fun, whilst we raise more money for the various school departments. I believe that with your help by either joining in at events, or assisting the PTFA, you can seriously enhance YOUR Child's education and make their time at school even more enjoyable. Our next meeting is on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7pm in the staff room. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to put some suggestions forward, please feel free to email me on [l.driver194@btinternet.com](mailto:l.driver194@btinternet.com)

The Advent service was a great success raising £840.50 in the raffle. Thank you once again to those who donated prizes and bought tickets. Congratulations to our winners: Jake Faulkner won first prize of £150 Cash; second prize was Sophie Wake winning a Christmas hamper; and third, Jack Wilkinson winning a drinks hamper. There were twelve other winners all winning anything from large hampers, to meals out, to cinema tickets. Well done to all!



**AUCTION OF PROMISES** Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February  
*A social evening with a difference*  
Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start

This is our next event, it will be a fabulous social evening, a chance to hook up with a few friends, bring along your own drinks and nibbles then maybe bag yourself a bargain. A fun, inexpensive night out! We have some fantastic promises such as a Formula 1 Driver Fitness day, meals out, a creative children's party, various lessons, hanging baskets, a track day at Goodwood plus many more. Please bring cash or a cheque for payment on the night. Prior to the event a catalogue with the list of promises will be on the website. We would like some more promises so if you or your friends would be willing to donate one, we would very much appreciate it. Please fill out the slip below and hand it in to Reception or email me at the above address. Ideas for promises are things like ironing, book keeping, babysitting, hairdressing, beauty treatments, anything goes, so please have a think. It doesn't need to cost you any money or take up too much of your time, but every promise we get, gives us a chance of raising more funds. Don't forget you can bring anyone along with you; they do not need to be connected to the college. See you there!

Look out for our Aerobathon coming up early spring: this is 2 hours of fun filled exercise moves to music including Zumba, Legs, Bums & Tums, Relaxing cool down, and more. It will be set to suit all levels and I guarantee you will have a really good laugh. This is one for the pupils, teachers, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbours. Please spread the word. More details will be in the next newsletter.

## AUCTION OF PROMISES

Name: ..... Phone No: .....

Child's Name and Form: .....

Email address: .....

Promise: .....

.....

.....

Please hand in to Reception by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February



## Promoting Reading

'Teach a child to read and keep that child reading and you will change everything.' Jeanette Winterson from the BBC radio 4 programme 'Stop What You Are Doing and Read This.'

Reading is one of the best forms of entertainment: you don't have to queue for tickets; it isn't on for a fixed duration; there is no artefact as such; no object to walk around; no-one to say we mustn't touch it. We don't have to travel to it. There is no need to worry if you are near the front. Instead we can stop and start when we want and the world can be left behind.

Why not share what you are reading with your family this week? Reading is one of the key criteria for success across the curriculum. You never know, your children might even be able to tell you what their teachers are reading as we all display this information outside our rooms.

For year 7s – why not share your Booked Up! Books with others – once you have read your book pass it on. Start a reading group so you can get through all of the books.

## Drugs information Evening

You are warmly invited to a Drugs information evening to be held at the college at 6pm on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February. This will be an opportunity to hear from Philippa Hoyle from the county PSHEe and well-being team about measures to safeguard your child and warning signs to be vigilant for. Sussex police will be on hand to talk about their role in prevention in the area and to provide a practical demonstration from their licensing and dog unit. A range of external agencies will also be on hand to discuss their role in drug prevention and the support they can offer when things go wrong.

If you are able to attend please complete the reply slip on the last page of the newsletter and return it to me at the college before the event. This is an adults only information session; adult family members and friends are very welcome to accompany you.

Mrs Bligh

## Parent Drop-in

Di Clark, our Parent Support Advisor, will be offering drop-in sessions for all parents Wednesday mornings 9am- 10am at the college. This is a chance to meet with other parents, talk generally about school life, and find out about all the different support groups and workshops available for parents in the Bexhill area. It would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible. It is hoped that the group will have enough parents attend to offer a programme of speakers on a range of issues (school nurse, police liaison officer) throughout the term as well as providing a chance to socialise with other parents. Refreshments will be provided. Beginning on Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb (after the break). Please complete the reply slip on the last page of the newsletter and return it to me at the college (for refreshment purposes).

## CLUBS/PRACTICES (Term Four)

	Boys	Lunch-time	Girls
Monday	Basketball Match Night Away		Gymnastics
Tuesday	Year 7 Basketball Badminton Club Rugby Tournament Night		Dance Club All Years Football Club Badminton Club
Wednesday	Running Club		Year 7/8 Basketball Running Club
Thursday	Year 8/9 Basketball Rugby	Table Tennis Club	Upper School Netball Club
Friday	Lower School Football Upper School Football Year 9/10/11 Basketball		Year 9/10/11 Basketball

## PE Department News

### Sussex Schools Football

#### Year 9

Round of last 16	v	Tideway	drew	3-3 AET
Replay	v	Tideway	won	2-0
Round of last 8	v	Blatchington Mill	won	1-0

The year 9 team have qualified for the semi-finals where they will play Thomas Bennett School from Crawley.

### Sussex Schools Cross Country - Lancing Manor, Worthing

#### Year 8/9 Girls

Grace Cook	1 <sup>st</sup>
Anja Guldemond	27 <sup>th</sup>
Natasha Bird	46 <sup>th</sup>
Rosie Canby	52 <sup>nd</sup>
Georgia Landy	57 <sup>th</sup>
Team	5 <sup>th</sup>

#### Year 8/9 Boys

Matt Herring	6 <sup>th</sup>
Declan Over	31 <sup>st</sup>
Issey Tajima	45 <sup>th</sup>
Oliver Platts	50 <sup>th</sup>
Team	4 <sup>th</sup>

#### Year 10/11 Girls

Rebecca Elphick	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Rebekah Canby	11 <sup>th</sup>
Matilda Colwell	15 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Year 10/11 Boys</i>	
Jacob Canby	31 <sup>st</sup>
Tom Jobling	39 <sup>th</sup>

### Year 9 PE Enrichment Day

A group of 15 pupils attended a gifted and talented day held at Brighton University. The group engaged in activities including Zumba, orienteering, problem-solving, indoor assault course and various fitness activities.

### London 2012

The college Sports Council has started planning activities for the coming months to highlight the Olympic Games. Already planned are events during National School Sports week, badminton, volleyball, table tennis and paralympic activities. More details can be found on the college website.

### Key Dates

April 19 <sup>th</sup>	100 Day OLYMPIC TRUCE
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	National School Sports Week
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Olympic Torch visits Bexhill
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Olympic Games Opening Ceremony
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	Paralympic Games begin

### Athletics

On Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January, a group of twelve children (six boys and six girls) competed in the Hastings and Rother indoor athletics championships at Summerfields in Hastings. There were a series of events and there were girls' and boys' heats. The pupils were able to choose which events to take part in, so that they could show off their skills in the events they thought they were good at! The events that took place were: relays, triple jump, long jump, lap races, shot put, obstacle course and speed bounce.

The girls who competed were:

- Martha Derhun (lap races, shot put and relay)
- Charlotte Greenlees (height jump, shot put, two lap races and relay)
- Megan McHale (long jump, relay, lap race, obstacle course)
- Amelia Bysouth (speed bounce, lap race, triple jump, obstacle course)
- Katherine Pickup (relay, lap race, speed bounce, height jump)
- Francesca Guldemond (relay, obstacle course, long jump, triple jump, lap race)

The boys who competed were:

- James McGrath (obstacle course, lap race, relay, vertical jump, shot put)
- Joe Body (obstacle course, lap race, standing long jump, vertical jump)
- Ollie Crabb (lap, standing triple jump, standing long jump, speed bounce)
- Josh Barrett (lap, relay, speed bounce)
- Harry Whiteley (obstacle course, relay, lap, standing triple,
- Max Wheeler (obstacle course, lap, relay)



With boys' and girls' team scores added together the college finished runners up. A great achievement!!!

**Terms 3 and 4**

Last Day of Term Three	Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> February
End of Term Holidays	Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> February - Sunday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February
First Day of Term Four	Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Drugs Information Evening	Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> February
PTFA Auction of Promises	Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> February
Parental Focus Group	Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> February - morning group 9.15am
Year 9 Consultation Evening	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March – 5.00 to 8.00pm
Parental Focus Group	Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March – evening group 6.30pm
Year 10 Consultation Evening	Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March - 5.00 to 8.00pm
Last Day of Term Four (for pupils)	Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March
Inset Day	Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March (closed to pupils)
Easter Holidays	Saturday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March to Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> April

**Term 5 and 6**

First Day of Term Five	Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 8 Consultation Evening	Thursday, 26 <sup>th</sup> April - 5.00 to 8.00pm
STRUT Cup Talent Show	Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> May
Last Day of Term Five	Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> June
End of Term Holidays	Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> June to Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 7 Consultation Evening	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> June
Summer Fayre	Saturday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> June
Year 10 Work Experience Week	Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June to Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> June
Inset Day	Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> July (closed to pupils)
Block Day	Tuesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
Sports Day	Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> July
Last Day of Term Six	Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> July

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**COLLEGE POLICY ON HOLIDAYS and time off for extra-curricular activities**

Parents, please understand the college's policy on taking time off outside of school holidays: permission for pupils to go on holiday or to participate in extra-curricular activities during term time will only be given in extreme cases, and not as a matter of course. Parents must write to me well in advance and fill in the revised Code of Conduct absence form issued by East Sussex. If the request is not authorised then a Penalty Notice (£50 fine) will be issued.

**D Cronin, Principal**

**Newsletter Acknowledgement**

Don't forget to sign the Newsletter acknowledgement located in your son/daughter's journal.

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**Drugs Information Evening / Parent Drop-In Session**

*Please return to Mrs Bligh*

Pupil's Name: ..... Form: .....

*Please tick*

I would like to attend the Drugs Information Evening on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February at 6.00pm

I would like to attend the Parent Drop-In Session on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 9.00am

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: ..... Parent/ Carer