



St. Richard's Catholic College

A National Teaching School, a National Support School and a High Performing Specialist Science College



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

Newsletter No. 2 – October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to say that this has been a positive successful term inside and outside of the classroom. Most pupils have worked hard; attendance for all has improved and our focus on developing a growth mindset is evident in pupils' approach to work and extra-curricular opportunities. Please keep reminding them that they are capable of achieving amazing things with a determined effort and positive, aspirational attitude.

Can I thank all those parents/carers who attended our curriculum information evenings this term. There has been much positive feedback along with suggestions for future events. All slides from the evenings are available on the website. Can I also encourage you to watch the inspiring clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I01fzo1aCHU> which reinforces the messages we are trying to convey to the pupils to ensure they are self-motivated and aspirational in their approach.

Activities/events this term have included: a physics talk at Sussex University, Art workshops at Brighton University, a talk on Cambridge University by one of its lecturers, CAFOD and LIFE talks, two trips to Greenwich, star gazing at Herstmonceux, D of E practice expedition, beach visits, sports competitions including a swimming gala and equestrian event, Shakespeare Schools Festival workshop, Grandparents' morning, Open Evening and Block Day activities.

Open Evening was once again an extremely popular event with over 500 families visiting the college to observe the pupils and staff at work in a variety of activities. Our visitors were extremely complimentary of all that they saw. Many, many thanks to all pupils who volunteered to act as ambassadors on this evening (over 400) and well done to Isabelle Lansdell, Year 7, Head Girl Serena Coyle and Head Boy Ethan Macdonald who gave speeches on the night or at one of our roadshows in the weeks leading up to Open Evening. Can I also thank you, as parents/carers, for supporting your child in attending and for your co-operation in picking the pupils up on the seafront at Sutton Place (TN40 1PD) which made a huge difference allowing our visitors to exit school safely and quickly. Please can I encourage you to continue to use Sutton Place on the seafront as a drop off point during rail strike days to ease the predictable congestion on Ashdown Road.

This week, we have had an external review of the school carried out by two serving OFSTED inspectors and a former head teacher of an outstanding school in West Sussex. The purpose of the review was to scrutinise school practices and validate self-evaluation judgements. I am pleased to report that the experience was really positive and the overall judgement was that the school's practices and outcomes are outstanding. Further details, including areas for development, will be provided once the report is published, however, I would like to congratulate Governors, staff and pupils on their hard work, commitment and positive approach which were complimented by the reviewers.

Can I thank all those parents/carers who have joined the PTFA and encourage even more. The next meeting is on Tuesday, 1st November. The Parental Focus Groups (PFG) also welcome extra members. These informal meetings enable parents/carers to learn so much about the school and also evaluate its practices. See the website for previous meeting minutes and consider attendance to support the staff and your child/ren.

As we approach the end of term one we look forward to the Year Seven Induction Mass which is a blessing on Year 7 and their families. I do hope all parents/carers of Year 7 will be able to attend. Furthermore, a number of Year 8 are off to Barcelona and CAT camp takes place during the holiday.

The final day of term will be a mufti day where the fee to participate will be an item of food for Bexhill Foodbank and a £1 donation towards charities in memory of former pupils who have recently died notably: Grace McAdie, David Matthews and Richard Anderson. May they rest in peace and may our Lord bring their families comfort.

Have a wonderful October holiday. Thank you for all your support this term. The staff and I look forward to the pupils' return on Monday, 31st October refreshed, relaxed and ready for the challenges and opportunities of term 2.

Yours sincerely

D. Cronin



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I do hope that as we approach the end of term one, that everyone has settled into college life. Can I urge pupils to please join in with all the activities/events that they can; they are an essential part of community life.

Recently, I enjoyed the company of over 100 Grandparents at an event especially arranged for us. We met together for coffee, celebrated a beautiful Mass followed by a tour of the college. If you missed the event make sure you come next year. We were well looked after by the pupils and staff. The Mass was an uplifting event with music, dancing, drama and readings all to a very high standard. Well done and congratulations to all involved; this showcased many of the talents our pupils have. Please try and attend the different events organised by the college.

I would encourage all parents/carers to give your family the opportunity to read this newsletter as I am sure there will be an event or activity that they would like to attend, as confirmed by the number of Grandparents who visited the school last week. Please spread the word.

With my prayers

Keith Osborne, Chair of Governors

YEAR SEVEN NEWS



As we approach the end of a very busy and exciting term I would like to feedback to parents/carers about how well their children are settling into life at St Richard's. It is clear to see that pupils are engaged in lessons and are working hard. A real measure was the amount of pupils who came back for Open Evening to show the next cohort what life is like at St Richard's. A special mention must go to Isabella Lansdell who delivered a speech to over 600 people at the start of Open Evening - well done! Another success was the amount of pupils staying behind after only one week to take part in a popcorn and film afternoon! I would also like to thank all the parents/carers who attended the coffee morning or the transition evening at the start of term. By working together I am sure your child will flourish in Year Seven. An important way to support your child is to get in contact with staff straight away if there is an issue. A really good way to do this is via email. I have highlighted below where all staff emails are found on our website www.strichardsc.com

A screenshot of the St Richard's Catholic College website. At the top, there is a blue header bar with the school's crest and the text 'ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE'. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with links: ABOUT, SCHOOL LIFE, LEARNING, SPIRITUAL LIFE, PARENTS, TEACHING SCHOOL, and a menu icon. The main content area features a large photograph of students in a classroom setting. Overlaid on the photo is the text 'A WARM WELCOME TO ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE' and 'Guided by Gospel education to purpose'. To the right of the photo is a sidebar with a list of links under the heading 'STAFF LIST': PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME, SCHOOL ETHOS / MISSION STATEMENT, ADMISSION APPLICATIONS, EXAM SUCCESS, OFSTED AND DIOCESAN INSPECTION, STAFF LIST, GOVERNORS, SCHOOL PROFILE, SELF EVALUATION, SCHOOL POLICIES, VACANCIES, ALUMNI, and STATUTORY DETAILS. Two yellow arrows point from the text in the previous paragraph to the 'STAFF LIST' link in the sidebar.



A real highlight this term was a visit from The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association in assembly. The pupils met 'Richard' the guide dog we sponsored and were given a talk about the wonderful work they do. The challenge now is to raise money to sponsor a new guide dog. As you can see from the picture, Richard found my element of the assembly a little too much!

PSHEe Term Two: The pupils will be exploring the following themes in Term Two. Anti-Bullying (to coincide with anti-bullying week 14th November) and Sex and Relationship Education (SRE). The SRE in Year Seven focuses primarily upon exploring relationships and emotions. Parents/carers wishing to discuss the SRE scheme of work in Year 7 should contact myself at the college.

Dates for your diary

Thursday, 20th October - Year Seven Induction Mass 7pm start.

Friday, 21st October - End of Term One

Monday, 31st October - Start of Term Two

Wednesday, 16th November - Settling-in reports to parents/carers

Thursday, 24th November - Parent consultation evening

Friday, 9th December - Fancy Dress Christmas Disco supporting Chestnut Tree House Hospice

Mr Bligh, Pastoral Leader Year 7 (mrblighj@strichardscc.com)

YEAR EIGHT NEWS



I am delighted to say that the Year 8 pupils have presented themselves to me as a positive, enthusiastic and cohesive year group. Year 8 is often underestimated, but it presents many challenges. Often these challenges are related to adolescence, dealing with friendship issues and managing relationships. I will be encouraging all pupils to 'do the right thing' when difficulties arise. In addition, work will become more challenging and that will involve getting really stuck and struggling at times. This is good; this is when learning will happen. Please encourage your child to be resourceful, look back at previous work and use online and recommended resources. Please help them to stay organised, manage their workload and balance it all with participation across a range of extra-curricular activities both at school and outside of school.

Charity Work: Form captains were chosen by each form and are responsible for driving each form's charity fundraising activity this year. Please do have a conversation with your child and see how creative they can be.

PSHEe: Learning activities began this year with pupils considering '50 things A TEENAGER SHOULD DO BEFORE REACHING 20'. Please check and see if they can iron their clothes, understand what a mortgage is and have a basic understanding of electrical wiring! Pupils also considered areas around 'Emotional Well-being' including: motivation, stress and self-image. During the next term, pupils will work on 'Positive Friendships and Anti-Bullying'. These topics are vital for Year 8 pupils to explore and discuss as they are learning more about themselves and their influence and effect on each other.

Be the Best You Can Be: Year 8 have begun our 'Be the Best You Can Be' programme which aims to inspire our pupils to engage with the ethos and values of the Olympics & Paralympics; attempts to foster the Olympian spirit and helps them to be more self-aware, self-confident and self-responsible. Block Day on Thursday, 13th October will focus on these activities. Form Assemblies are focused around the Olympic and Paralympic values which drive the 'Be the Best You Can Be' programme. By the time you read this, Form 8H and Miss Auzinger will have presented their assembly on 'Friendship' using a mixture of poetry, drama and prayer.

Extra-Curricular Clubs: Please take time to ensure that pupils are making the most of the array of extra-curricular activities, clubs and sports that are on offer. Encourage your children to check the activities board in the main corridor and give something new a go!

Mr Carradine, Pastoral Leader Year 8 (mrcarradine@strichardscc.com)

YEAR NINE NEWS



Year 9 have made an excellent start to the year with superb attendance throughout all tutor groups. Well done and keep up this level of dedication of getting into school. We are focusing on Growth Mindset in school at present and looking at the language we use to ensure we are positive about ourselves and each other. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the KS3 information evening, if you missed the presentations, information is available on our website regarding the new 9-1 GCSE Grading system and a Growth Mindset approach.

Charity Events and Socials: As a year group we have two key events coming up in Term 2. Our first Charity Event will be our Year 9 calendar, which we hope will

be a real success and will be available to buy towards the end of Term 2; a perfect Christmas present for friends and family! Secondly, our first social event - Peter Pan Pantomime at the White Rock Theatre on Wednesday, 21st December at 1pm. Tickets are currently on sale to the pupils on a first come first served basis. I look forward to getting into the Christmas spirit with the pupils!

Extra-curricular Activities: The large choice of clubs offered to our Year 9 pupils is astounding; every evening there is an extra-curricular opportunity available to them, as well as Prep club and Prep Club+ to keep pupils on top of their work. Please encourage your child to stay and get involved in a club after school.

I have been able to take form time for the majority of the Year 9 forms this term and I have been impressed with the wide variety of outside interests of our year group. Please feel free to share your child's individual successes with me so we can celebrate these extra-curricular successes together.

Homework: I would urge parents to check 'Show My Homework' as well as their child's journal. Homework expectations are renewed after the holidays and the last few weeks have seen a small number of pupils being placed on observation report to help with their organisation and quality of homework produced. If your child is placed on report can you please sign his/her report daily. If you have any queries about this, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone.

Pupils are being encouraged to strive for and collect Prize Points. One way you can track how well your son/daughter is doing in Year 9 is to regularly look at the number of prize point rewards he or she is being awarded.

PSHEe: In PSHEe, Year 9 have been learning about relationships as part of a unit called SRE. Topics include: What makes a good relationship? In this unit, pupils learn to define features of friendships and other relationships and they look to find out which qualities make relationships thrive and develop. Pupils also learn about assertiveness and passivity in relationships as well as looking at how aggression can be a side effect of this. Pupils are also learning about safe and happy relationships as well as contraception and STI's.

Our next PSHEe topic in term 2 starts with: 'What is emotional health and well-being?' which touches on developing confidence and reducing stress. Pupils will be offered tactics and strategies for reducing stress. As part of the unit they will also be looking at how appearance can be superficial and that stereotypes are very easy to create. Anger management will also be explored and finally, mental health issues.

Year 9 Block Day: Enterprise Block Day occurred yesterday. Year 9 pupils tested their entrepreneurial skills and created new eco-friendly green products to meet their given brief. The pupils delivered these ideas to a team of 'investors' in a Dragons' Den style pitch. This was a fantastic block day event for character building.

Mr Campbell, Pastoral Leader Year 9 (mrcampbell@strichardscc.com)

YEAR TEN NEWS



I have generally been impressed with the start our Year 10 pupils have made to this academic year: the vast majority of pupils are working hard and taking on the challenges of GCSE courses in a mature, responsible manner.

PSHEe: The relationships unit in Year 10 PSHEe is going well with pupils approaching it in a mature fashion.

Block Day: I hope the pupils found the retreat day at The King's Centre this week valuable and that they take time to discuss their experience with you at home.

Year 10 Social Event: We are hoping to hold a movie and pizza social early next term. Further details to follow.

Prefect Points: Pupils are being encouraged to strive for and collect Prefect Points. A way you can track how well your son/daughter is doing in Year 10 is to regularly look at the number of prefect point rewards he or she is being awarded.

How you can help support your son/daughter in Year 10:

Academically

- Continue to check 'Show My Homework' and their journal weekly and sign. It would be beneficial to discuss the different homework tasks.
- All targets should now be recorded in the journal for all subjects. Please spend time going through these with your son/daughter so that you are fully aware of the grade they should be working at.
- Ask to see your son/daughter's exercise books regularly. There will be targets for improvement recorded in them all (as well as lots of praise hopefully) so you can discuss with your child their way forward.
- Pupils should be completing two hours of homework on average, five nights a week. If they are not, please get in touch (and thank you to those who have already). There is always something they could be doing, from reviewing work, producing mind maps/revision notes on topics, to reading/researching around the subjects to benefit their literacy skills.
- Remember that all staff are contactable by e-mail which you can find on the college website. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with any of your child's teachers or TAs if you feel you need further help to guide them through this year in a particular subject.

Socially

- Please continue to encourage your son/daughter to be involved in extra-curricular activities both inside and outside of college. Not only does this ensure a well-balanced, healthy young person, it also affords real impact on self-esteem and aspiration.
- This is often a stage in a young person's life when they are seeking more freedom and can be vulnerable to a great deal of outside pressures. A good piece of advice is to always phone the parents/carers of your child's friend if they are planning a sleep over or party at their house to ensure it is supervised to your expectations. Your son/daughter may tell you nobody else does this but let me assure you, the **vast majority** do.

If at any point you feel the college can support your son/daughter further in either the academic or social aspects of their development, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Easton, Pastoral Leader Year 10 (misseastonk@strichardscc.com)

YEAR ELEVEN NEWS



Year 11 are working hard and contributing positively to the college. The prefects have been exceptional this year in ensuring that the younger pupils have been supported in settling into school. Prefect training this term went really well with 98% attendance. The Prefects took part in 3 main activities where we discussed the role of prefect, how to handle difficult situations and what makes an effective prefect. It was followed by a delicious meal of fish and chips at Little Marabou in Bexhill who were very welcoming and accommodating. Of particular note I must commend Chloe Upton, Serena Coyle, Emilie-Jayne Ralph, Angus Morgan, Florence Forde and Monica Gibbs for their outstanding attitude and commitment to the role of Prefect. I am very pleased also to have posted 14 postcards home rewarding Year 11 pupils this term.

Parents' Revision Evening: The Year 11 parents' information evening was really well attended and we are hopeful that it proved useful to both parents and pupils on ways to start and support the revision programme. The UCAS online application section was noted to be very useful by several of you that I spoke to.

Mock Examinations: The mock examinations take place between 23rd November and 2nd December. These provide an important indicator of your child's progress and represent a key milestone in preparation for the summer examinations. Year 11 pupils should begin revision during the October holiday and spend some time every evening revising material for the examinations. From 14th November, all homework will be suspended except for revision tasks and most subjects will have revision lessons from the week beginning 7th November. The mock examination timetable will be issued in early November. Please note that some examinations may run past the end of the normal school day and pupils will need to make alternative travel arrangements.

Further Education: Term 2 sees the majority of Further Education colleges offering Open Evenings for young people and their parents. We strongly recommend that you attend several of these in

order to get a flavour of the Local Area Offer. All of the main providers and several of the minor ones have given presentations in school to Year 11. Applications should be made directly to minor, private and out of area providers. Applications to the main providers (Sussex Downs, Sussex Coast and Bexhill College) should be made via UCAS. All applications need to be in by 1st December to ensure that St Richard's pupils are amongst the first for interviews and college offers. Pupils are working hard on their UCAS application forms at college but should also be supported in this process at home. Please contact me or Mrs Bligh if you need further help or were unable to attend the Revision evening on the 6th October.

PSHEe: Year 11 PSHEe in term 2 will involve a road safety presentation, stressing the hazards to people in their mid-teens. The drama is hard hitting but promotes an important safety message. The pupils will also be completing their profiles and then covering revision techniques in preparation for the mock examinations.

GCSE Pod, Google Drive & Learning Well: All pupils can access GCSE Pod. They can do so simply by signing in to our VLE on the website and accessing it from the Apps button. There is a wealth of support here which pupils can download to iPads or computers or even their smart phones. Listen or watch them together. Ask your child questions afterwards. What are they still unsure of? Ask them to write it down and bring it in to their teachers or Teaching Assistants.

Teachers have been uploading a wealth of revision and support material onto Google Drive. It is easy to access. Click on the Drive button on the dashboard. You will then see the various apps for this drive. Click on My Drive or Shared with me to access all the revision support. This will be continuously added to over the next few months in the Year 11 Revision folder.

If you need my help or wish to discuss any issue please contact me via the school number or my email address.

Mr Doherty, Pastoral Leader Year 11 (mrdohertyr@strichardscc.com)

Train Strikes

As you are aware future train strikes are planned by Southern Rail. Pupils affected received a letter with all the dates on last Wednesday.

I am really grateful to all those parents/carers not only driving their own children in but those of other families too. It means that attendance for all has been at almost 100%.

The school road, Ashdown Road, is particularly congested on these days so I would urge you to drop off and collect from Sutton Place (TN40 1PD) on the seafront. The pupils will then have a 3 minute walk through the tunnel to and from school.

Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Miss Cronin

CERTIFICATE & PRIZE EVENING Wednesday, 9th November 2016

Our Annual Certificate and Prize Evening will shortly be upon us when our leavers will be receiving their GCSE certificates and prizes will be presented to pupils still at the college based on their endeavours and service in the academic year 2015-2016.

In previous years, the response to our appeal for financial support has been excellent. If you would like to make a financial donation towards the prizes for this event, please complete the tear off slip below and return it to Miss Cronin with your donation. This support is greatly appreciated and contributes to the success of the evening.



Please return to the Principal

PRIZE EVENING

Pupil's Name: Form:

I enclose as a donation towards the cost of prizes for Prize Evening.

Signed: (Parent/Carer) Date:

Congratulations to...

James Rosie, Year 9, who is currently playing for Crystal Palace Football Club.

Amber Pisani-Cleland who has been accepted into the Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club advanced development centre for the under 14-16 age group.

Emily McFagan, Year 10, has been selected from dance examinations that were held last November, to compete in the B.A.T.D. Junior Stage/Tap scholarships which were held in Glasgow on the weekend of 1st and 2nd October.

Hollie and Luke Young, who were confirmed at St Mary's, Battle on Sunday, 2nd October by Bishop Dr Martin Warner.

Hollie Young, 9S, has won a Sussex County Cricket Club award for Outstanding Performance in 2016. Hollie came second with 20 wickets in the overall stats for bowling in the Sussex setup (overall she took 43 wickets and scored 330 runs this season for club and County), which included the women's adult 1st team and the six junior squads. The award was primarily for her match against Berkshire in July, where as captain, Hollie took on the pressure of bowling the last over with Berkshire only needing 4 runs to win. Hollie not only bowled a maiden over, but took 3 wickets in the over which secured victory for Sussex. Hollie commences trials and training for the 2017 season soon. Hollie has also been offered a place on the Emerging Player Programme from Sussex CCC. She joins a select number of junior players (10 max) who have shown potential to play at a senior level for Sussex and hopefully England in the future.

Katie Martin, 11F, is participating in her Cheerleading Squad's first ever overseas and major worldwide competition. It will be held in Paris, on the 17-20th March 2017. Katie has been in the Sussex Stars Cheerleading squad for the last 8 years and was selected as squad captain 2 years ago. She is also involved in junior coaching.

Natalia Opalka, 9S, whose essay in the Catholic Young Writer Awards was given a highly commended. Her essay will be on display at the AGM of the Catholic Union in London in November.



Anti-bullying Week 14th – 18th November Tips for Parents and Carers

If you are worried that your child is being bullied, here are some tips on how to talk to them and prevent further bullying.

- If your child tells you or you suspect they are being bullied, don't panic. Explain that the bullying is not their fault and together you will sort this out.
- Bullying is never acceptable and should always be taken seriously. It is never your child's fault if they are being bullied.
- Try and establish the facts. It can be helpful to keep a diary of events. If the bullying is online, save or copy images or texts.
- Find out what your child wants to happen. Help to identify steps that you can take; and the skills they have to help sort out the situation. Make sure you always keep them informed of any actions you decide to take.
- You may be tempted to tell your child to retaliate but this can have unpredictable results. Your child may get into trouble or get even more hurt. Try role playing non-violent ways they can respond to the bullying. Show them how to block or unfriend people if the bullying is online and help them identify other friends or adults who can support them.
- Encourage your child to get involved in activities that build their confidence and esteem, and help them to form friendships outside of school (or wherever the bullying takes place).
- Get some advice. There are many organisations that can give you some advice. The school website has a link to some of these and other useful links about bullying. If you wish to talk to someone, please do not hesitate to contact the college, your child's form tutor, Pastoral Leader or myself.

Mrs Hills (mrshillsa@strichardscc.com)

Data Capture and the New Assessment System

A new assessment system has been designed in light of the Government's abolition of levels and the move to a new GCSE grading system based on numbers from 1-9. We have adopted a 'flight path model,' the diagram to the right illustrates how a pupil is expected to make progress and reach a certain point in each year depending on their starting point (KS2 Data). This system works in the following ways:

1. All pupils will be set targets for GCSE based on assessment data from primary school and internal assessments completed in the college (In Year 7 this is a score based around an average of 103 whereas in years 8 to 11, this is based on their KS2 SATs level). These targets are ambitious and aspirational (based on the progress of the top 5% of pupils nationally).
2. Pupils will be targeted a "score" for each year which will work towards the final GCSE Grade. For example, Susan arrives in Year 7 with a Year 6 test score of 103. The top 5% of pupils with a 103 score nationally will achieve a Grade 7 in Maths so Susan is targeted Grade 7. She would therefore be targeted a score of 6 in Year 10, 5 in Year 9, 4 in Year 8 and 3 in Year 7.
3. Each pupil will be assessed 3-5 times per year depending on the subject. In most subjects, pupils will be assessed four times in Year 7 and five times in Years 8-11.
4. All assessments are unified meaning that all pupils in the year group take an identical assessment (unless there is a tiered entry at GCSE) to ensure accuracy and parity between classes. The style of assessment in each subject reflects how a pupil will be assessed at GCSE in that subject.
5. All pupils are given a 'progress' code whereby they will be awarded either: '+' indicating outstanding progress; '=' indicating adequate progress or '-' indicating that a pupil is making insufficient progress.
6. If a minus is awarded, intervention in that subject will be required to close the progress gap that exists. This normally takes the form of support materials or additional classes followed by a retest. **Please note that a minus may be awarded for lack of understanding rather than lack of effort and should not be assumed to be a punishment for poor effort. This is indicated on the profile sheet that a pupil receives.**
7. Each assessment will be scored (to the nearest 0.5) and the score will be compared to the target. For example, Susan has a Maths target of 3 for Year 7. She is assessed in term 1. If she scores 3.0 or more in the assessment she has reached target and will be awarded a "+" on her profile. If she scores 2.0 or 2.5 she is making progress but not yet at target so will be awarded "=" on her profile. If she scores less than 2.0 she is significantly below target and requires intervention so would be awarded "-". This would be tested at the next data capture point.
8. It would be expected that scores would increase as the year progresses and the pupil reaches the target by the final data capture point in term 6.

Mr Byrne, Vice Principal

Mobile Phones

Pupils with permission to bring in a mobile phone must hand it in at Reception at the start of the day and collect at the end of the day. The pupils concerned must not be using the phones travelling to or from school; they are for emergency use only.



MFL NEWS

MFL Club meets
Every Monday: 12:45pm until 1:30 pm
French (B14) Spanish (B13) German (B5)



Spanish Club

¿Te gustan las tapas? Members of Spanish Club and pupils from Year 7, 8 and 9 Spanish classes were instrumental in making the Open Evening a success on Tuesday. They were given the challenge of making a typical Spanish tapas dish. Yes, we had a few olives, but we also had homemade paella (thank you, Mrs Truss and Mrs Kelly!) tortilla, gazpacho, croquetas, churros, magdalenas, torta de naranja y almendra and lots of other delicious offerings. The tapas “bar” was very popular with prospective parents and gave an insight into the link between food and culture.



German Club

The German department is looking forward to taking 35 Year 8 and Year 9 pupils to the Christmas market in Aachen in early December. Further details including the date for the parental trip meeting will be emailed out soon!

The German department are running German Club in B5 every Monday lunchtime from 1:00-1:30pm. All are welcome! German Film Night is back by demand and will take place on Wednesday, 19th October in B5. We will be watching '*Der Ganz Große Traum*', a funny film about the introduction of football to Germany, whilst eating popcorn. All are welcome, including non-German speakers.

French Club

French Club takes place in B14 every Monday lunchtime from 1:00-1.30pm. In September, we have been keen to explore new activities which members would be interested in. From pupil feedback so far, there is an enthusiasm for food-tasting, films and games. In response to this, we will be starting with the showing of '*Astérix*' in French on the first Monday of term 2. All are welcome (you do not have to be studying French to join us) and we would particularly like to remind Year 7 pupils that they can simply come along for one week to get a ‘taste’ of the club.



‘My Chinese Teacher’ Mandarin programme

你好

Following the pupils’ enjoyment of the pilot programme ‘My Chinese Teacher’ which ran in the summer term, we are delighted to be continuing to offer this weekly lesson via a video-conferencing link with our teacher, Freddy Guo, in Beijing. Pupils from Year 8 and 9 are excited to be continuing their discovery of the Chinese language and culture during a 30 minute weekly session held every Monday morning from 8-8.30am in B14. There will also be a follow-up session during a lunchtime each week using workbooks to consolidate what has been learnt. This programme will be running from the start of October through to July next year. If anyone else is interested in joining the group, please see Miss Chong as soon as possible and no later than the end of term 1.

This Month’s Fun Factoids

The word ‘tapa’ means cover and originally (before refrigeration!) they were slices of cheese or something else used to cover a drink in order to keep flies and mosquitos away!

The German language is famous for its ‘Zungenbrecher’ (tongue twisters). Here’s one for you to try: *Esel essen Nesseln nicht, Nesseln essen Esel nicht.*

Donkeys don’t eat nettles, nettles don’t eat donkeys.

James Bond, Laurel and Hardy, Thomson and Thompson from Tintin have all made appearances in *Asterix* comics.

Careers Information

APPRENTICESHIPS

An Apprenticeship is a job with training which allows individuals to earn while they learn and gain nationally recognised qualifications. An Apprenticeship enables a young person to enter the job market and develop their skills.

With over 250 different types of Apprenticeships covering over 1,400 job roles, Apprenticeships provide a route into training in the skills employers want in a variety of industries and sectors, from Nursing to Graphic Design, Horticulture to Electric Vehicle Engineering. There are over 100,000 employers offering Apprenticeships in the UK.

The National Apprenticeship website: www.apprenticeships.org.uk houses the on-line vacancies system. At any time there are up to 15,000 Apprenticeship jobs being advertised on the website. Pupils can search for vacancies on this site or they can register and set up to receive alerts informing them of new vacancies that might interest them.

If you require any further information about Apprenticeships please contact me. I am hoping to run a workshop on Apprenticeships during term 2.

CALLING ALL FORMER PUPILS

I am currently putting together a series of inspirational careers, information, advice and guidance posters for the pupils and for this to continue I need your help.

Can you please email or send me a photo of yourself, details of what you have done since leaving St Richard's and any words of wisdom that you would like to pass on to future generations.

WORK EXPERIENCE MOCK INTERVIEWS

Year 10 pupils will go on a week's work experience in June 2017. In preparation for this the timetable is suspended for one morning of activities. The activities include writing curriculum vitae, role play and health and safety whilst in the work place. Each pupil also attends a 20 minute one-to-one interview. I am looking for volunteers to act as interviewers for this morning, which will take place on 6th June 2017. Each interviewer will see approximately 3-4 pupils over the duration of the morning. Feedback should be given to the pupils in terms of their CVs and any tips or advice for the future. If you are interested in being involved in this event or would like further information please contact me at the email address below.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 pupils will go on a week's work experience from 26th – 30th June 2017. This week is particularly valuable as it really gives the pupils a chance to experience the world of work. This week should not necessarily be thought of as a 'Career Taster' week, as there are some organisations that will not take pupils under the age of 16. All placements are selected through an online database, Aspire. This can be accessed by entering the following website address:

<https://aspire.eastsussex-brighton.org.uk/wexpupilchoiceslogin.aspx?aspirenetview=student>

Each pupil will be issued with a username and password to use this system over the next few weeks. If your son/daughter loses or forgets their username and/or password then please let me know and I will reissue them.

All pupils must pick 3 possible choices for work experience from the database or put in the information of an own placement by Friday, 27th January 2017. From experience I have found that own placement finds tend to be a more valuable experience as these are usually in the field that the pupil wishes to pursue in the future. Once the placements have been selected we can then start to contact employers and place the pupils at a suitable placement, this will work on a first come first served basis.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs C Adams, Careers and Work Experience Coordinator (mrsadams@strichardscc.com)



COMPUTING AND ICT DEPARTMENT

What is Sexual Grooming?

When a child is sexually abused it is never their fault and it's crucial that parents and carers recognise this. Knowing that they are supported and believed can be a huge help to a child as they move forward from the abuse.

Even if you know it's not their fault, it can be really hard to understand how your child has found themselves in a situation where they have felt they had to, or wanted to, engage in sexual activities with an adult or older person. One way this can happen is as a result of 'grooming'.

What is grooming and how does it work?

Grooming is a process used by people with a sexual interest in children to prepare a child for sexual abuse. It is often very carefully planned and it can take place over weeks, months or even years.

Building a relationship

Grooming is about making a child think that sex with the offender is normal or that they have no choice. Offenders do this by building a relationship and emotional connection with the child. This relationship can take different forms.

- They could try to convince the young person that they are in a loving relationship as boyfriend or girlfriend.
- They might become a mentor to the young person, making them think they are someone who can help them or teach them things.
- Sometimes they will become a dominant figure in a young person's life, perhaps by having a relationship with their parent or caregiver.
- They may also build a relationship with the child's family, making them think that they are someone who can be trusted with the child.

One of the most sinister aspects of grooming is the way in which it so closely mimics genuinely positive relationships. This can leave its victims very unsure of who to trust, sometimes assuming that they can trust no one, even people who seem to be nice and to care.

Gaining power over a child

In all of these relationships they will be looking to gain power over the young person. This enables them to manipulate or coerce them into sexual activity. If a young person feels they are in love, this gives an offender power. The offender can emotionally blackmail the child by threatening to withdraw their affection or saying, 'if you loved me you would.' Offenders also blackmail children by threatening to share secrets that the child has told them. In some cases they will tell the child there will be terrible consequences for refusing to do sexual things. Offenders will use any means they can to exert power over a young person.

Keeping it secret

In all cases they will look to make sure that the young person won't tell anyone else about the abuse, telling them to keep it secret. They often tell young people that no one will believe them, or that if they tell anyone they will be the one in trouble. This is why it is so important to tell a young person that you believe them and do not blame them if they disclose they have been sexually abused.

Remember many children and young people don't understand that they have been groomed, or that what has happened is abuse. Even if they tell you or you find out about the abuse, young people may attempt to remain in ongoing contact with the offender and have very mixed feelings about it all. They will need your help in making sense of their feelings, and protecting them from further abuse. Special thanks to <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Mr Fegan, Subject Leader - Computing and ICT

If you have any concerns in relation to sexual grooming then please make contact with one of the Designated Safeguarding teachers notably: Mrs Bligh, Miss Cronin, Mrs Hoyle, Mr Bligh, Mr Doherty or Miss Easton.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

'Yoorsong' Songwriting Workshops: There's always something exciting going on in the music department, and some Saturday morning workshops might be of interest to many of our aspiring song-writers. These are led by multi-platinum songwriter and producer, Paddy Byrne, who has written radio hits for Paloma Faith, Olly Murs, Ella Eyre, Snakehips, Will Young and many more artists. For more details go to www.acmpny.co/voorsong

Glyndeboune: There are just a few tickets left to see 'Don Giovanni' at Glyndebourne on Wednesday, 2nd November. Interested pupils from any year group should collect a letter from me as soon as possible.

Secondary Schools Prom: On Monday, 7th November we are taking the choir, orchestra and dancers to this annual event at the Winter Gardens in Eastbourne. Tickets are available from Eastbourne Theatres Box Office – 01323 412000 or www.eastbournetheatres.co.uk.

Grandparents' Event: Well done to our choir members who sang in the Mass for this lovely event (see photograph right).

Mr Roadknight, Subject Leader – Music



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Shakespeare Schools Festival: As the Shakespeare Schools Festival performance draws closer, the cast spent an afternoon at The White Rock exploring and developing their knowledge of King Lear with the help of two professional actors/directors. They had the opportunity to perform for pupils from Battle Abbey who they will be performing alongside on the night, and they got to watch an extract of their version of 'The Merchant of Venice.' The pupils involved thoroughly enjoyed the workshop, and have decided the next stage of the process will be marketing! So watch out for the posters to advertise 'King Lear' as tickets are now on sale at The White Rock Theatre (box office 01424 462288 or visit www.whiterocktheatre.org.uk for more details.)



The National Theatre Connections Festival has confirmed that St Richard's Year 10 pupils have been chosen to perform a brand new play called 'Three' written by well-renowned TV writer, Harriet Braun. The Year 10 pupils will have the great honour of performing at the fantastic Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury during the festival in March and they can't wait! We will ensure the pupils perform at college as well for all those who can't make it to Canterbury so keep an eye out for more details.

CALLING ALL ACTIVE ARTISTS AND CREATIVES! For those of you who take part in arts activities outside of school and who want their efforts to be formally recognised, St Richard's offers a fantastic opportunity to gain the Arts Award at Bronze and Silver level. The first meeting of the year will be on Friday, 4th November – please see Mrs Dunster or the attached flyer for more information. All are welcome!

Drama clubs are up and running – please come along and get involved. There's a great deal of opportunities for you to perform in whole school events, or you can just come along and have fun!



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GAIN A QUALIFICATION THIS YEAR DOING SOMETHING CREATIVE?



The Arts Award is a nationally recognised qualification which celebrates the work you do in the Arts. You can base your course around anything you do that's creative, from decorating cakes and designing clothes, to creative writing and performance! You will meet with an Advisor once a week and put together a scrapbook of evidence alongside a series of projects – and you decide what they are! It's open to every year group and ability. All you need is creativity!

**COME ALONG TO THE MEETING TO FIND OUT MORE:
Friday, 4th November @ 1.00pm
in the DRAMA STUDIO**

Mrs Dunster, Subject Leader - Drama (mrsdunsters@strichardscc.com)

ART DEPARTMENT

All our pupils have made a really positive start in the Art and Design Department.

Year 7 are working with enthusiasm on their drawing skills topic and producing delightful colour wheel studies. We have also had some excellent submissions for the 'Design a Front Cover for The Year 7 Welcome Mass' competition. The chosen submission will take pride of place on the cover of the Welcome Mass Booklet. Good luck, everyone!

Year 8 are working on their highly original teapot designs and exploded drawings. Miss Pennington's group are producing some wonderful observational watercolour work.

Year 9 are focusing on Totem Pole designs and research based study, and the Quarter Portraits Project. It is beautifully detailed work.

Year 10 GCSE pupils have made an excellent start on the course showing pride in all their sketchbooks and are working really well. They will be taking part in a series of art and printmaking workshops to develop their GCSE Art coursework and will be taught by art teachers at the School of Education at Brighton University. It is a fantastic opportunity to try new skills and experience life in university.

Year 11 are concentrating on portfolio based work and developmental drawings for the GCSE dummy run.

The Lions will be in before the end of term one to judge this year's Peace Poster competition and we have had some high quality submissions. We have also had some fantastic entries for the 'Comets and Satellites in Space' Competition Challenge. All our winning entries will be displayed at the Astronomy and Space Exhibition, Battle Memorial Hall.

Mr Peachment

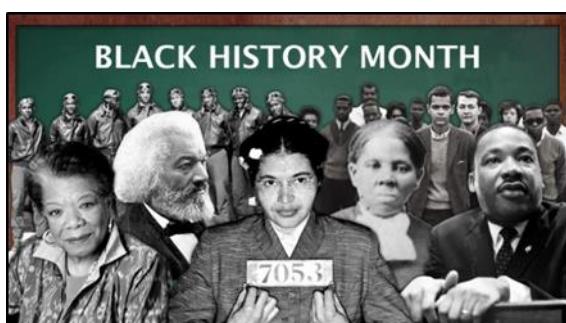
History Department News

KEY STAGE 3 HISTORY

950th Anniversary of 1066: In the last decade we have lived through the historic anniversaries of the First World War, Magna Carta, Waterloo and Agincourt. This October marks 950 years since the Battle of Hastings that made a turning point in British history. Year 7 historians are currently studying the events which led to Norman Conquest over England. Experience a day out with your family to one of the many commemorative events being held locally, including a battle re-enactment featuring 600 soldiers! For event details visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk and www.visit1066country.com



Competition Winner: The History department launched a postcard competition over the summer holidays. The aim was for pupils to visit a historical landmark and send a postcard about their experience back to school. The winner is Kaitlyn Payne in 8L who sent a postcard from Valletta in Malta. Congratulations, a box of chocolates is on its way to you!



Black History Month: October also marks an important month in the historic calendar for Black History. Year 9 historians have been learning about the origins of the slave trade, its abolition and the Civil Rights Movement in America. To commemorate this event, pupils from 9H delivered an assembly to their year group on the importance of Black History Month celebrating key individuals and events. Zion Sherman in 9O wrote this prayer, 'Dear Lord, Give those faith who need it and keep them going until help comes. Amen.' To find out more information visit: www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/

GCSE HISTORY

GCSE historians will receive a revision folder for History and will be expected to create a revision timetable that they will be able to follow on a fortnightly basis. Pupils need to focus on exam technique and subject knowledge for the Edexcel units Medicine through Time, Nazi Germany and the Transformation of Surgery. Materials for independent revision are available via Google Drive and Padlet.

Miss Neilan - Teacher of History



Privacy Notice

A reminder that the Privacy Notice, including the Privacy Notice for Year 11 pupils, can be found on the college website.



Geography News

Fun and learning on the beach by 8H

We have been learning how to use fieldwork equipment accurately in our lessons. Mr Howe and Mrs Hoyle had us practising using the digital weather stations, recording oktas as well as handling clinometers, tape measures and anemometers.

All the equipment was new to us so we went to practise how to use it out on the school's playing field. Out we trooped in the rain with this weird looking equipment, all excited but a little anxious. It was good fun measuring angles and distances even though our group struggled a little with a soggy booklet by the end of the session.

What a difference a week makes! This week we went to Galley Hill to show our newly found skills on the beach and this time, thankfully, the sun shone and the sea glistened. We were off to investigate why Bexhill has coastal management, so we needed to collect some data about the beach and the land around it. We really enjoyed using the equipment and seeing all the natural processes that we had learnt about in our lessons. Now that we are back in the class, we are writing up what we have found out. Who knew that Geography could be such fun.



GEOGRAPHY CLUB HAS BEGUN!

Have you heard any news stories that are linked to Geography?

Interested in creating working models and exploring how the world works?

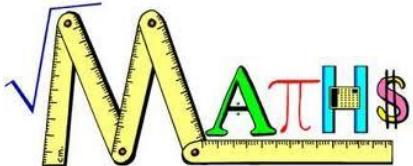
Come along to Geography Club, Monday lunchtimes, in A2.



Join the Geography Club

This September, the Geography Club was launched as part of a new incentive to promote Geography awareness within Key Stage 3. In Geography Club, pupils can build models of geographical features, develop their journalist skills by researching the latest news and contribute to our interactive 'Geography In The News' display board. Over the coming months we hope to record news bulletins, build working models of natural processes and features, as well as designing posters to raise awareness of geographical issues for display in the college and local community. The club, which is open to Years 7, 8 and 9, runs on a Monday lunchtime from 12:45pm until 1:15pm. Come along and join in the fun. See Mr Howe in A2 for further details.

Mrs Hoyle, Subject Leader



Numeracy News

GSCE Adult course

Starting after the October holiday, Ms Gallagher will be running a GCSE Foundation course once a week. There is no cost for parents until the entry of the exam.

This course would benefit those wanting to study further and do not have mathematics or parents who want to support their children at home with mathematics. No maths knowledge is needed as this will be a back to basics course. Please email for further information: msgallagherl@strichardscc.com

Numeracy at Home

One of the key topics highlighted as a weak area from the KS2 SATs was division and proportion, especially questions set in a real life context. Try to go through these three questions with your child. Encourage 'owning the question' write on the diagram, show all your working and don't feel bad about the method you are using.

Ms Gallagher, Joint Acting Subject Leader - Maths

Newsletter

Our newsletter is distributed in the penultimate week of each term. The youngest member of the family in the college has responsibility for passing the newsletter on to parents/carers.

However, all pupils in a family need to have a signature from a parent/carer to indicate that the newsletter has been received.

The acknowledgement is in the journal. It is important that this is signed within a week of publication, particularly when we have a planned half-day closure.

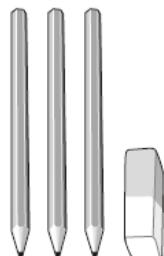
We are planning to go online for newsletters to reduce costs by January 2017.

If you would prefer to receive a paper copy then please email your details to Mrs Klein (mrskleink@strichardscc.com) who will ensure this occurs.

6 pencils cost £1.68

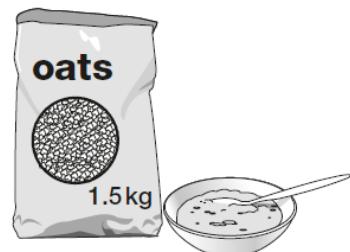


3 pencils and 1 rubber cost £1.09



What does the rubber cost?

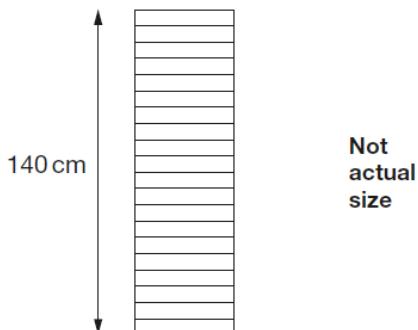
A packet contains 1.5kg of oats.



Every day Maria uses 50g of oats to make porridge.

How many days does the packet of oats last?

A stack of 20 identical boxes is 140 cm tall.



Stefan takes three boxes off the top.

How tall is the stack now?

Are you interested in Teaching?

If you are interested in training to teach, why not consider Thrive Teaching School Alliance as your training provider? Alongside the University of Sussex based in Brighton, we offer a School Direct route into teaching which awards you a PGCE and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) upon its completion.

Within Thrive Teaching School Alliance we have many training places available at St Richard's and within our other partner schools of Bexhill Academy, Robertsbridge Community College, Bexhill College, Claverham Community College and a selection of primary schools for September 2017. Currently these are the full range of secondary subjects. For some subjects, funding is also available. Applications open on UCAS from 18th October 2016.

Have a look on the college's website under 'Teaching Schools, Initial Teacher Training' or contact mrswoode@strichardscc.com for more information.

Train to Teach Evening at the University of Brighton

Whether you have just graduated or already hold a degree and are looking for a career change, come to our **Train to Teach evening on 19th October 2016 from 5.30-7.30pm** and find out about our postgraduate routes into teaching:

- PGCE primary, secondary and Further Education and Training
- School Direct Training and School Direct Salaried
- Early Years Initial Teacher Training

Meet our course tutors, current trainee teachers and discuss vacancies with our School Direct partners. Plus learn about training bursaries worth up to £30,000. There's no better place to train to teach than Brighton.

For more information please visit: https://www.brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/subject-areas/events/train-to-teach.aspx?utm_source=partner_school&utm_medium=website_referral&utm_content=train_to_teach&utm_campaign=train_to_teach_pg_2017

Year 8 Girls' HPV Vaccination

The East Sussex Immunisation Team are coming into school next week to undertake an immunisation session. If you have not already done so please complete the online consent form by following the link in the letter sent home (www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms). If you have any questions or have not received a letter please call the Immunisation Team on 01323 446995.

We have been looking at ways to improve the uptake of immunisations across the county and young people have identified that they would like to receive more information about the vaccines prior to the session. We have therefore included a link below to a short video which is really informative and shares important information. It would be great if this could be played to the young people, prior to the session.

We have also added a link to a Q&A sheet which young people may find helpful.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/345993/8874-HPV-cervical-cancer-QA-04.pdf

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

School Immunisation Team

Free school meals – are you entitled?

At St Richard's, we are committed to working with pupils and their families to ensure that they receive support both within and beyond the classroom. One way we can help is to ensure that families eligible for free school meals receive them. St Richard's receives funding from the government for pupils who are eligible for free school meals and this money is used to provide extra support, for example by supplying eligible pupils with free study guides.

To check if you are entitled please read the information on our website.

Alternatively, your child can pick up an application form from the Reception office for you to complete and return to County or to Mrs Hollands in Reception. The school can then use the Checking Service to confirm entitlement but you may need to show up-to-date proof that you meet the qualifying criteria. If approved, the entitlement will be credited daily to the cashless catering system.

**Please note that all pupils should be on the school premises by 8.40am each day
so that they are ready for a prompt start to registration or assembly.**

Parents, Teachers & Friends Association NEWS

Hello all,

As usual the PTFA have been very busy attending and providing refreshments at the evening events at the school. The Open Evening was especially busy this year and the teachers in particular were very grateful for the refreshments we provided for them. We have also had our first meeting and the AGM. We are, however, currently looking for new members on the committee to assist with the evenings we provide refreshments for and also to contribute to our fundraising efforts. We generally meet once a term and we try very hard to keep the meetings to an hour. We meet in the staff room between 7pm and 8pm.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 1st November at 7pm. We are such a friendly committee, there is no obligation to put your name down to everything. Any help is always appreciated. Please come along and join us if you can, it is a great way to give back to the wonderful school which our children are fortunate to be a part of.

St Richard's Catholic College



night

A great night of entertainment
for the whole family

Friday, 18th November
7.00 for 7.30pm start

Adults £3, Children £1
Tables of six
Prize for the winning team

Bring your own refreshments

RAFFLE TICKETS 1st and 2nd prizes

To book a table please phone St Richard's Catholic College
on 01424 731070



A last note on my recruitment drive, we are "Parent", "Teachers" and "Friends" so please don't be shy in asking grandparents if they'd like to join us too!

We have a couple of events which take place before Christmas. The first is the ever popular annual quiz. This year the date for your diary is Friday, 18th November, 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Teams of 6, bring your own drinks and snacks, £3 per person and we will be having a fabulous raffle too. It is always a great fun night and dare I say it does get rather competitive.

The week after the quiz, Friday, 24th November we are holding a Christmas Craft Fair at the college. There is also a Year 7 parents' evening taking place so we hope to get lots of customers both from the parents attending and anyone else who would like to get some Christmas Shopping done. If you are someone who is a crafter or has gifts to sell please book a table as per the poster. It is sure to be a successful evening for everyone.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and for all of your continued support at school and PTFA events. We hope to welcome many new members on the 1st November.

Best Wishes

Fiona Connor

YEARLY DONATIONS

When joining the school, quite a lot of parents/carers fill out a standing order form to donate £10 per child per year to the PTFA, which is greatly appreciated. Those of you who donated via cheque or cash in that first year and not Standing Order, may not have donated since, as this would never have been mentioned to you again. Although not compulsory, if you have simply forgotten and would like to continue with this, please fill out the slip below and send it into the college for the attention of Carina Hilton (treasurer of the PTFA).

- I/We would like to make a £10 contribution to the PTFA (cheques made payable to St Richard's Catholic College PTFA)
- I/We would be happy for you to send us a reminder on a yearly basis.
- I/We would like to contribute via Standing Order £10 per year, please send a mandate form home via my child.

NAME

EMAIL and TEL NUMBER.....

PUPIL'S NAME and FORM.....

Reception, please hand to Carina Hilton Treasure of the PTFA

Library News

FILMCLUB
Update



Film Club News Film Club will run on Monday, 10th and Tuesday, 11th October, showing 'Tales from Earthsea', Certificate PG. Based on Ursula Le Guin's epic fantasy series, this version from Studio Ghibli is truly beautiful, with dragons, magic and adventure suitable for all. If your child is in Year 7 or 8, and is interested in joining Film Club, they would be most welcome; ask for more information and a permission slip in the Library.

Library Cards and Locker Keys I have replaced more than 50 Library key rings during September. All pupils need to have a Library card or key ring in order to borrow books, CD-ROMs, DVDs and Laptops from the Library. Should your child not have one, please ask them to see me – replacement key rings are £1.00 each.

Open Evening was, as always, tremendously busy, with prospective parents and pupils engaging in a Library activity and asking myself and the pupils librarians all sorts of questions about the Library. My thanks go to Helena Hudson of 10I and Katie Nash of 10S, both pupil librarians, for their excellent assistance on the night.

Grandparents' Day was a delight in the library, with Grandparents networking and enjoying refreshments after the wonderful Mass in the main hall. Our Head Boy and Girl did us proud, as did the Year 9 helpers and tour guides. This is always a lovely occasion; so many grandparents never get to visit their grandchild's school, so it's really a special day when they do.

Overdue Library Book Appeal Once a term I send out overdue notices to all form tutors, listing all the pupils in each form who have borrowed Library items (mostly books) and not returned them on time. Six times per year, they are reminded to look for the books at home, and get them back to the Library, paying off any small fine they have incurred. Fines are 1p per item, per school day. We do not charge for weekends or school holidays. Despite this, and individual reminders from myself when they visit the Library to borrow laptops or try to borrow another book, I still have about **200** books overdue. Can I appeal to parents to have a hunt around for any overdue school Library books, please? I am always happy to renew books if pupils need them for longer, thus saving a fine being incurred. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



Quote of the month: '*Dinosaurs didn't read. Now they are extinct. Coincidence?*'

Ms Tocknell, Librarian

English Department News

Extreme Reading

Year 7s were encouraged to participate in our extreme reading competition. Entries this year were extremely creative. Mrs Midghall, Subject Leader for English, had a hard job in choosing the winners. After much thought the following was decided:

3rd - Gabrielle Ward 7U

Joint 2nd - Francis Crighton 7F and Daisy Crabb 7O

1st - Izzy Lansdell 7F

Prizes were awarded in the Year 7 assembly and the photos are now on display. Have a look; you'll see people in many fun locations. See how many teachers you can spot. Two were reading during their wedding day whilst others took snaps in all sorts of exotic areas including Miss Wood in Uganda and Miss Machin in the high Himalayas, India. Miss Machin's picture was awarded the teacher prize.

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 – Once you receive your BookBuzz Books in the coming weeks why not share them with others – once you have read your book pass it on. Have a reading group with friends so you can get through all of the books.

KS4

Years 10 and 11 - Well done for starting the term so successfully! Year 10 assessments for this term are complete and Year 11 ones are fast approaching: please see the dates below to keep track of what you are expected to do and when. This will help you to manage your revision and workload over the coming weeks.

Padlets are now up-and-running for all topics and can be accessed via the links shared with you on the Google Drive and by email. If you have any trouble accessing these resources please let your teacher know as soon as possible so we can get you logged on.

Make sure you are regularly returning to your keywords and starting to learn your key quotations. Everything you need including keyword lists is accessible on the Google Drive and padlets.

Try to read as much as you can (fiction and non-fiction are relevant to your exam). As well as being a great way to relax, the more you read the better you will write as you pick up tips and vocabulary from writers without even realising!

Year 11 language assessment (reading) - Monday, 17th October

Year 11 literature assessment (19th century text) - individual dates provided by subject teachers

Parents: We have a stock of Collins revision guides which cover language and literature - they include revision materials, practice questions and exam guidance. They are available from Miss Wood in A1 for £5 (cheaper than the £10.99 RRP!). For text-specific guides we recommend the York Notes 9-1 guides or CGP for a more simplified option. Teachers can show pupils copies of these guides and they are available in all good bookshops and on Amazon.

As always, thank you for your support. If you would like to receive emails with suggested revision resources, websites and general course information, please email me on: misswoodm@strichardscc.com and I will compile a list of contacts.

Spellzone

All pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 should be signed up for Spellzone. Here are the instructions if you do not yet have a login.

- 1) Go to www.spellzone.com/invite
- 2) Type in the following code: QK9CIDBE
- 3) Enter your details
- 4) Make a note of your login and password in your journal.
- 5) Go to www.spellzone.com
- 6) Login and take the spelling ability test.
- 7) Once you have finished the test – start using Spellzone. Go to spelling course then start with the basic course.



Attendance & Persistent Absence

We recognise the strong link between good attendance and good academic outcomes at St Richard's. Pupils learn best when regularly in lessons. We aim to work in partnership with families to ensure that every child reaches their potential by way of regular and punctual attendance at school.

The Government has set the threshold for Persistent Absence at 10%. This will mean a pupil with attendance below 90% is now classified as a persistent absentee and applies regardless of whether the absence is 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'. Having 10% absence is the same as missing 38 sessions or 19 days of absence across the year or 3.5 days per term. The Government says that it expects every pupil to maintain an attendance level of above 96%. We thoroughly endorse this at St Richard's. The table below shows cumulative absence session thresholds for 10%

90% Attendance or Below	
Term 1	7+ sessions (3.5 days absence)
Term 1-2 (Autumn Term)	14+ sessions (7 days absence)
Term 1-3	20+ sessions (10 days absence)
Term 1-4 (Autumn & Spring Term)	25+ sessions (12.5 days absence)
Term 1-5	31+ sessions (15.5 days absence)
Term 1-6 (Full academic year)	38+ sessions (19 days absence)

The Department for Education (DfE) has published data on their website that clearly shows the link between attendance and attainment. The highlights the fact that there will be an impact on your child's education and exam results if their attendance is not consistently above 96% throughout their schooling. Minor ailments, such as a headache or slight cold, are not considered acceptable reasons for not attending school. We realise that any child can suddenly fall ill and be unable to attend school but repeated absences may require us to request medical evidence from your doctor's surgery as confirmation of these absences. This is in line with recommendations by both the DfE and Local Authority.

Your child will be made aware of their current attendance percentage and whether they fall into this group. Pupils with an attendance of less than 90% at the end of Term 1 (e.g. the October holiday) will be asked to attend a meeting with our Education Attendance Officer and their Pastoral Leader or member of the Senior Management team.

I need to remind you that the current law does not give any entitlement to parents to remove their child from school during term-time for holidays, therefore such an absence cannot be authorised. Leave of absence can only be granted in exceptional circumstances. If you feel you need to remove your child from school for this reason, you must complete a Withdrawal from Learning application in the first instance and at least two weeks prior to the date requested.

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?					
190 LEARNING DAYS EACH SCHOOL YEAR					
175 DAYS FOR FAMILY TIME, HOLIDAYS AND SHOPPING					
190 days	180 days	178 days	163 days	161 days	143 days
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%
Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	

School Council 2016-2017

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected School Council representatives for this academic year:

Year 7: Megan Parslow, Astrid Morewood, Nigel Johny, Connor Brown, Hubert Rownicki, Addison Stevenson, Mimi Luscombe, Hamish Tallud, Molly Differ & Alexander Long.

Year 8: Ethan Parkin, Kaitlyn Payne, Isobel Francis, James Campbell, Toby Harrison, Niall Shimmons, India-Cleo Stevens, Jasmine Moulding, Ryan Segal & Louise Kavanagh.



Year 9: Bradley Hare, Allysha Nhanda, Abbie Pinnington, Joseph Neilan, Jagen Cox, James Rosie, Sebastian Rann, Michael Cornfield, Natalia Opalka & Rebecca Appleton.

Year 10: Angel Joy, Kasey Cosens, Lara Lippin, Jack Eaton, Chiara Wilding De Miranda, Alina Reji, Mia-Bella Bonett, Helena Hudson, Mark Griffin, Katie Clifton,

Year 11: George Kee, Dawid Opalka, Danny Willis, Loula John, Monica Gibbs, Lucy Jackson, Roshana Iruthayaraj, Katarzyna Fedor, Steeve Davis, George Cutler-Spring, Florence Forde, Serena Coyle & Ethan Macdonald.



Love in a Box

The annual 'Love in a Box' appeal is for the Mustard Seed Charity. Pupils are asked to collect and pack a shoe box of presents for children in Eastern Europe who, otherwise, would not receive gifts at Christmas. Once filled pupils should please bring the shoe box into school and it will be collected by the charity on Monday, 21st November.

For more information about this charity please visit their website:
<http://www.msrm.org.uk/>

LOVE IN A BOX!



It's time to start collecting
shoe boxes to fill with goodies
for children who are in need!

5 shoe boxes minimum
from each form with a
PRIZE

for the form that collects the
most in each year

Boxes should be covered in gift
wrap and £3.00 collected for
each box to cover transport
costs.

Start collecting shoe boxes now!
Collection of filled boxes is on 21st
November 2016



Special Educational Needs



SENCO Surgery

The first SENCO surgery will take place on Wednesday, 19th October from 3.30-5.00pm in the library. This is an informal opportunity to discuss your child and to meet Mr Smith and the Teaching Assistant Co-ordinators who help support pupils with SEN in the college.

All parents and carers of pupils with SEN or those entitled to Pupil Premium are welcome. Mr Smith can be contacted by telephone or email should you have any concerns about your child.

Mr Smith, SENCO

Finance Office Update

Online Payment System

The St Richard's online payment facility is now live.

What can be paid for using your debit/credit card online?

School uniform, PE kit and school equipment. Additionally, payment for trips and Block Day activities (subject to a minimum cost of £10).

To obtain codes to access your online payment account please email the college Finance Office: finance@strichardsc.com including 'Online Payment Access' in the subject line and you must include your child's name and form. If you have more than one child attending St Richard's you will need an access code for each child, however when setting up the online payment account they can be linked. It is possible for parents to hold separate accounts if necessary.

New £5 Notes

Please note that new £5 notes are not currently accepted by the loaders used to add to your child's canteen money.

SAND ART



HALF TERM CHILDRENS ACTIVITY MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER

Liz will be here to entertain children aged 3-16 accompanied by an adult with some fabulous SAND ART

1 HOUR SESSIONS BETWEEN 11AM-3PM TICKETS ARE £5 FOR AN HOUR SESSION TO BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

From: Bexhill Caring Community 25 Sackville Road, Bexhill on Sea TN39 3JD phone 01424 215116

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE NOW - GET YOURS BEFORE THEY ALL GO!

Chaplaincy News

September and October have been busy months. Pupils, parents (and grandparents!) and staff have been involved in the various aspects of spiritual life at St Richard's with commitment and enthusiasm, for which I am most grateful. Term 2 promises to be just as full.



Church Visits: Year 7 pupils visited St Mary Magdalene's Church in Bexhill in Term 1 and their RE teachers showed them around pointing out the significant items in the church. They also had some time to participate in Meditation and reflection time; very useful in this busy first term for Year 7. Our thanks go to the Parish of St Mary Magdalene and Fr David for the opportunity to visit their beautiful church.



Grandparents' Event in School - Tuesday, 6th October 2016: Our Grandparents' day on 6th October was much enjoyed by everyone, visitors and the college community alike. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the grandparents who visited, and to the many pupils and staff who were involved in the Mass, the refreshments in the library, and the tours of the school after break.



Special thanks to Mrs Byrne, Mrs Knight and Mrs Dunster for the wonderful music and liturgical dance and drama in the Mass, which made it a wonderfully spiritual occasion. The book of Proverbs says 'grandchildren are the crown of the aged' and while that may be so we are indeed privileged to have the experience and support of our pupils' grandparents here in St Richard's. We look forward to next year's event.



Whitstable Retreat for Year 9 and 10 - Friday, 11th - Sunday, 13th November 2016

Letters have gone out to pupils in Year 9 and 10 for the weekend retreat to Whitstable. Numbers are limited so please ensure these are returned promptly. If you would like to pay in instalments please email or call me on the number below to arrange this and to ensure your son/daughter gets a place on the trip.

Liturgy Reps: The first meeting of the Liturgy Reps in September was both lively and constructive. Future events were discussed and I was delighted last week to meet each year team at break for a hot chocolate to discuss their year services and other events happening this year. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, 12th October where we will be trialling splitting the group to make meetings run smoother. 12:45pm - 1:10pm will be for Year 7, 8 and 9 reps and 1:10pm to 1:30pm will be for Year 10 and 11. All meetings will be in A3.



Friday Morning Mass for staff and pupils: The early morning Mass on Friday (at 8.10am) has been well supported this term, with pupils of all ages contributing to the liturgy in the readings and the offertory. It is at this Mass that we include prayer intentions for those in, and connected with, the St Richard's community. If you have someone or something you would like us to pray for very specially, then do let me know. Everyone is most welcome to attend: pupils, staff and parents.



Fairtrade: Term 1 sees the launch of our new Fairtrade group - Fairtrade Champions. This new group will be led by Dr Littlejohns and myself, we hope this will ensure that Fairtrade events happen on a more regular basis. Members of the Student Listeners who were interested and some Liturgy Reps have signed up but the group will be open to all.

At our first gathering each member was given a Fairtrade champion badge. In wearing this they are promising to promote the ideals of Fairtrade in our school.

We hope to have an advent raffle in term 2. We have made contact with the Bexhill Fairtrade group and hope to work with them this year to promote Fairtrade.

With every blessing for a restful half term and for the exciting prospect of Term 2!

Jo Doyle

Miss Jo Doyle - Lay Chaplain (missdoylej@strichardscc.com) Tel: 01424 731070 Ext. 126

RE DEPARTMENT NEWS

All years have been really busy and working hard on their topics this term.

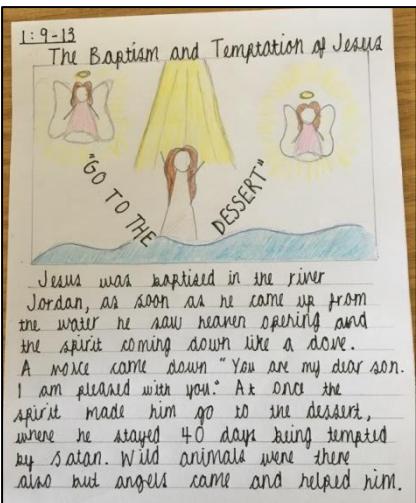


Year 7 went to visit St Mary Magdalene's Church this term. They were able to look around the church and find out about all the main elements. They even saw where the relic is kept in the altar. In addition, they spent some time in meditation in one of the prayer rooms at the church. Eliza Brown in 7S said, "When we went to St Mary Magdalene's Church I learnt a great deal. We were told all about what a Priest uses and what

different events happen during a Mass. We had a tour of the Church where my teacher, Miss Henry, told us all about each and every aspect of the Church, for example we were told about the Paschal Candle, the Altar and the Tabernacle. I found this trip incredibly enjoyable and it has helped me in my R.E lessons and I can now answer many more questions about the Church."

In **Year 8** pupils have been discovering the history of the Christian church. They have learnt about St Paul, Nero and the persecution of Christians, Constantine, the crusades and the reformation. This has

allowed them to see how Christianity has developed and discovered the different Christian denominations.



Year 9 have started their study of Mark's Gospel. They have been really busy creating their own version of the Gospel. Each pupil had a particular story to summarise. These were then put all together for pupils to go through so they could see the whole Gospel.



Year 10 have started their new GCSE course and have learnt about the Trinity, the creation stories, incarnation and atonement. Pupils are all engaged and have started the new course with great motivation and enthusiasm.

Year 11 have been learning about abortion, euthanasia and life after death. They have had a guest speaker from Life talking about the charity and the important work they do.

Mrs Mead, Acting Subject Leader – RE

PE Department News

DANCE

Dance Company Auditions: Congratulations to all those pupils who successfully auditioned for the Dance Company. We had a fantastic turnout for the auditions and it was wonderful to see how much talent there is in St Richard's. We ran the auditions a little differently this year with the Senior Team for the first time creating and teaching for the audition. They also gave a small performance at the beginning. Well done to all those who took part and thank you to the senior team. The successful new members of the Dance Company are: Angelina Tadros, Larissa Mayal Napier, Molly Differ, Bea Sendino, Matt Cordell, Edward Pepper, Sofia Sevette, Keia Penman, Lydia Joseph, Karina Maziarczuk, Sophie Western, Elysia Gilmour, Olivia Harrington, Laynie Mote, Ana Romero, Hettie Rankin and Betsie Field. It is lovely to see so many new faces; everyone is working towards several new performances.



Open Evening: The Dance Company took part in the St Richard's Open Evening by providing dance demonstrations. The evening started with two of the Senior team, Maddy Thwaites and Izzy Angel, leading the dancers in a warm up before the senior team danced competition dances from last year. Thank you to all who took part.



Grandparents' Mass: On October 6th the Dance Company took part in the Grandparents' Mass. They danced two pieces the first was to 'Mercy' by Matt Redman and the Psalm 'Cry of the Poor.' Well done to all those who took part and thank you for your hard work.

Induction Mass: The junior team are currently busy rehearsing and working hard for their Induction Mass taking place on Thursday, 20th October

Eastbourne Proms: The senior team will be performing alongside the choir at the Winter Gardens, Eastbourne on 9th November in the annual music proms. Tickets are available from Eastbourne Box Office.

Boys' Dance Company: The Boys' Dance Company is going from strength to strength. It is lovely to see so many new dancers. They are currently rehearsing for their first performance in a professional theatre in February (more details to follow soon).

Dance Company Rehearsals and Clubs		
Monday	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Company
	4.15-5.00pm	Grade 5 Modern (Exam class)
Tuesday	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Company
	4.15-5.00pm	Grade 5 Modern (New class)
Wednesday	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Company
	4.15-5.00pm	Grade 3 Modern (Exam class)
Friday	3.15-4.15pm	Boys' Dance Company

New Year 7 Dance Class starts after the October holiday on Thursdays from 3.15-4.15pm

Mrs Knight, Dance Teacher

PE NEWS

Bronze Sportsmark: Congratulations to all pupils in the college. St Richard's have been awarded the Bronze Sportsmark by the Youth Sports Trust for its participation in competitions and sports leaders volunteering work.

Sussex Schools Swimming Relay Championships: Well done to the 16 Year 7-9 pupils who represented the college in the County event held in Horsham. With a very young team (most can swim in the same age group next year) and against many of the County's top private and sports colleges the teams finished in the top half in each event. Pride of place goes to the Year 9/10 girls' team of Lexie and Jade Coleman, Elizabeth Saldana and Isabelle Pilon who finished 5th and 6th.

Football: Well done to Baxter Orchard and Oskar Lockyer who have been selected to play for the County under 14s football team in the coming season.

SE Sussex Schools Football League Match Results

Year 8A v Buckswood. Lost 0-1.

Year 8B v Bexhill Academy. Lost 4-0.

Year 8 v William Parker. Lost 0-3.

Year 9 v St Leonards Academy. Won 5-1.

Year 10 v St Leonards Academy. Won 2-1.

Sussex Schools Football Cup Results

Year 9 v Hove Park. Won 4-2 on penalties after extra time.

Netball Results

Year 10 v Hastings Academy. Won 9-8.

Year 10 v Rye. Lost 4-8.

Year 8 v Rye. Drew 9-9.

P.E. DEPARTMENT CLUBS/PRACTICES (OCT - DEC 2016)

	Boys	Girls
MONDAY	BADMINTON (WG)	BADMINTON (WG)
TUESDAY	FOOTBALL MATCH NIGHT (RV/JGB) BASKETBALL Year 9 (MFE)	NETBALL Year 7-8 (TL) FOOTBALL Year 9-11 (KE)
WEDNESDAY	RUGBY Year 8 - 11 (JGB)	FOOTBALL Year 7-8 (KE) NETBALL Year 9-11 (TL)
THURSDAY	FOOTBALL MATCH NIGHT (RV)	
FRIDAY	ALL YEARS FOOTBALL (RV/JGB) UPPER SCHOOL BASKETBALL (TL)	UPPER SCHOOL BASKETBALL (TL)

St Richard's Equestrian Team

The St Richard's Equestrian Team have been out representing the school this term. The dressage team of Alex Williams, Duncan and Georgina Morgan went to Felbridge in early September. On 18th September a show jumping team of Duncan Morgan, Angus Morgan and Megan Bassett competed at Felbridge in the 85cm class, Duncan came second to qualify for the National Championships in October; the team then came 6th in the 95cm. All rode very well against stiff competition and many entries from schools all over the South East.

On 19th November, the whole team will be competing at Golden Cross, Hailsham in the County League show jumping qualifier for the National Championships. If you would like more information about the team or want to come along and cheer them on, please contact Team Manager, Charlotte Williams (parent) on cia@btinternet.com.

St Richard's Catholic College Calendar - Academic Year 2016/2017 (as at October 2016)
Please keep this sheet in a safe place and replace when updates are provided.

Terms 1 and 2

Year 7 Induction Mass
Last Day of Term One
End of Term Holidays
First Day of Term Two for pupils & staff
Parental Focus Group meeting (am)
Prize Evening
Parental Focus Group meeting (pm)
Year 11 Mock Examinations
Year 7 Consultation Evening
Non-Uniform Day for Surviving Christmas
Christmas Dinner Day
Advent Service
Last Day of Term Two
Christmas Holidays

Thursday, 20th October (7.00pm)
Friday, 21st October
Saturday, 22nd October to Sunday, 30th October
Monday, 31st October
Wednesday, 9th November (9.15am)
Wednesday, 9th November (7.00pm)
Thursday, 17th November (6.15pm)
Wednesday, 23rd November to Friday, 2nd December
Thursday, 24th November (5.00-8.00pm)
Thursday, 15th December
Thursday, 15th December
Monday, 19th December (7.00pm)
Tuesday, 20th December
Wednesday, 21st December to Monday, 2nd January

Terms 3 and 4

First Day of Term Three for pupils & staff

Year 9 Curriculum Evening
Parental Focus Group meeting (pm)
Parental Focus Group meeting (am)
Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening
Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening
Last Day of Term Three
End of Term Holidays

Tuesday, 3rd January

Wednesday, 11th January (7.00pm)
Thursday, 12th January (6.15pm)
Wednesday, 18th January (9.15am)
Thursday, 19th January (5.00-8.00pm)
Thursday, 2nd February (5.00-8.00pm)
Friday, 10th February
Saturday, 11th February to Sunday, 19th February

Monday, 20th February

Wednesday, 8th March (9.15am)
Thursday, 9th March (5.00-8.00pm)
Thursday, 16th March (6.15pm)
Thursday, 23rd March (5.00-8.00pm)
Friday, 31st March
Saturday, 1st April to Monday, 17th April

Term 5 and 6

First Day of Term Five

Parental Focus Group meeting (am)
Parental Focus Group meeting (pm)
GCSE exams start
Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening
Last Day of Term Five
End of Term Holidays

Tuesday, 18th April

Wednesday, 3rd May (9.15am)
Thursday, 4th May (6.15pm)
Monday, 15th May
Thursday, 18th May (5.00-8.00pm)
Friday, 26th May
Saturday, 27th May to Sunday, 4th June

Monday, 5th June

Wednesday, 14th June (9.15am)
Thursday, 15th June (6.15pm)
Saturday, 24th June (11.00a,-2.00pm)

Monday, 26th June

Week commencing Monday, 26th June
Tuesday, 4th July
Wednesday, 12th July
Friday, 21st July

Newsletter Acknowledgement

Don't forget to sign the newsletter acknowledgement no. 2 located in your son/daughter's journal.