



# 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. 6 – May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Term 5 began with services in all year groups to mark the death of Year 8 pupil, Sophie Maria Taylor, who died from cancer in the first week of the holidays. Sophie was a beautiful pupil: always smiling, eager to learn and a good friend to all who knew her. A Memorial Service to celebrate her life was held on Friday, 21st April with her family, including her grandparents, in attendance. Hopefully, Year 8 pupils, in particular, have felt they have had opportunities to express their grief and be listened to. During term six, we plan a lasting memorial in her honour and a variety of fundraising activities are being organised for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. Please keep Sophie's family and friends in your prayers.

On Friday, 5th May we were saddened to hear that former PE and Geography teacher, Mrs Malone, had died. Mrs Malone had been a dedicated, caring and talented professional in St Richard's for 26 years and had made an impact on the lives of hundreds of children. Prayers and a Service have been offered for her and a group of staff will attend her funeral on Wednesday, 24th May. Again, we plan a lasting memorial to her and we plan to fundraise for St Wilfrid's Hospice in thanks for all she did for the community of St Richard's.

Whilst the term has been tinged with sadness, joy has come from the way the community has pulled together to support each other. I have certainly felt very proud of the pupils' response and, in particular, the choir who not only rehearsed in advance of Sophie's funeral, giving up their holiday time, but also sang at all the services that have occurred this term.

Other moments of joy this term include seeing the Dance Company perform 'Suffragette' and 'Fire Flame' at Bexhill College last week. Both performances were professionally choreographed, slick and delivered with flair. I felt extremely proud of our dancers. The girls' and boys' football and basketball teams have also done extremely well this term with all teams reaching the finals. The teams should be proud of their efforts, team spirit and talent. The School Parish Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea was an uplifting occasion with dancers, the choir, a drama group and readers delivering the liturgy. Father Tony was really welcoming and has requested their return. Other events this term include: lots of careers talks by our alumni, science activities including trips, maths challenge, trips based around the Arts and, of course, lots of revision sessions for Year 11 before and after school, on Saturday and in the holidays. Show rehearsals are well-underway so ensure you keep one of the dates free as advertised in this newsletter.

Please keep Year 11 in your prayers as they journey through this exam period which began in earnest this week. We will be marking their departure from secondary education with a leavers' service and celebration in term 6. We shall be very sorry to see them leave as they have contributed greatly to the success of the college. Individually, they have made their mark and, as a year group, they have given generously of their time to clubs, activities, fundraising and looking out for the younger pupils. They leave us as young men and women with a range of talents and I am confident they will go on to make a real success of their lives. On behalf of the whole school community I wish them well, not only for the successful completion of their GCSEs but on the journey ahead where hopefully they will achieve beyond their dreams, be happy and continue to make a difference to the society in which they live. We look forward to celebrating their endeavours and successes and formally saying farewell at our Certificate and Prize Evening on Wednesday, 8th November 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite parents to join us one of lunch-times the week beginning 19th June to sample school dinners, in particular the new cultural menus. Members of our PFG plan to do so and you would be welcome too. Can I ask you to ensure that you are not booking holidays during term time, such holidays have a real impact on the learning of the child concerned and the rest of the class. Please be advised that all holiday requests will be unauthorised. Could I also ask you to note the new date for the Summer Fayre on Saturday, 17th June and try to come and support the PTFA in their fundraising endeavours for the benefit of all the pupils. Your child/children should have brought home raffle tickets this week, which I encourage you to buy as there are many wonderful prizes this year.



As the term draws to a close, I would like to say thank you and farewell to Mrs Tracy Eaton who is leaving St Richard's to work in the medical field. Tracy has been an outstanding TA, TA Co-ordinator and Specialist TA of maths for the past 17 years, sharing her passion for maths with our SEN pupils. Mrs Eaton's calm, meticulous approach has ensured that hundreds of SEN pupils over the years have not only made significant progress but have strengthened their self-esteem, well-being and confidence. Can I also wish good luck to Mrs Byrne who begins her maternity leave on Wednesday, 7th June.

Please note that term six for pupils ends on Thursday, 20th July to allow for an extra day of Inset for staff. As we move into term six, pupils are allowed the option of wearing the school polo shirt. Parents/carers are reminded that purchase is not essential as a short-sleeved cotton shirt worn with the tie will keep the pupils just as cool. Please bear in mind that pupils are not allowed to wear a t-shirt under the polo shirt.

The staff and I look forward to welcoming pupils back for the final term of the school year refreshed and ready for the opportunities and challenges ahead. Enjoy the holiday.

Yours sincerely

*DeA Cronin*

Principal

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## FlatCashEd Update

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know East Sussex Headteachers have been working with up to 3000 Headteacher colleagues across 14 counties to raise the issue of school funding and the significant current financial difficulties that all of our schools are now facing.

During all of our campaigning work to improve funding for each and every child in each and every school, we have been careful not to become involved in a politically biased or partisan way. Headteacher colleagues and I feel that ahead of the forthcoming general election it is crucial that parents, carers and all other interested parties raise the issue of school funding 'on the doorstep' with all prospective candidates

As professionals we are only interested in securing fair and adequate funding for the children that we educate. This is under severe threat and has influenced our decision to contact you in a collaborative manner. We hope the guide we sent you previously was informative and that as and when you have had any prospective candidates knocking at your door you have been able to use it to ask them the relevant and important questions so that we can all be fully informed as to the future of school funding in the very near future.

Thank you for your ongoing support

### **PLANNED RALLY IN HAILSHAM TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR BETTER PROVISION AND FUNDING IN EDUCATION**

**Saturday, 27th May 2017**

**9.30am – 10.15am**

Meeting point is at the end of Grovelands Road,  
outside Grovelands School, Hailsham  
(not Dunbar Drive entrance)

Further ideas for petitioning your local  
councillor/MP are available  
on the school website.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Over the past few months there have been several activities/trips that the pupils have taken part in, all of which enhance their educational experience. I am grateful to those staff who gave of their time to make these trips possible.

Revision sessions have been arranged by staff (whom I thank) to help pupils prepare for their exams and I trust pupils have appreciated this by attending them. I have been present at a number of activities involving pupils and all those involved have been a fine example for others to aspire to.

Please try and support the PTFA Summer Fayre on Saturday, 17th June together with the Summer Show in July. Two very enjoyable events: I look forward to seeing you there.

There are many tasks carried out by those employed at the college and for those who go the "extra mile" I would like to thank each and every one of you for the work that you put in.

For those pupils who are at present sitting exams I pray that you achieve or exceed your expected grades and that everyone in the college is trying to be "the best they can be."

With my thoughts and prayers.

*Keith Osborne, Chair of Governors*

## YEAR SEVEN NEWS

It has been a very busy term for Year Seven and I continue to be impressed with the way the pupils are making progress in their lessons. I was really delighted to read so many wonderful comments within their reports. Hopefully, you were able to attend the Parents' Consultation evening and discuss your child(s) progress with their individual teachers. If you were not able to attend or would like to discuss something further, please do not hesitate to contact either the teacher concerned or myself.

A real area that we have worked on in assemblies and PSHEe this term is 'Friendship'. In particular, we have focussed on what it means to be a good friend and how to identify someone who isn't being a true friend. Sadly, social media is still an area that our young people struggle with and I would urge all parents to discuss with their children what they or their friends are writing. An open conversation can often give reassurances and allow a child the confidence to make better choices on-line and with their friendships.



As you are almost certainly aware, there is a new craze sweeping schools across the country. 'Fiddle toys' or 'Spinners' have arrived at St Richard's and instead of supporting learning and helping concentration they are doing the opposite and causing a great deal of disruption in the playground. Therefore if your child **does not have permission** from either **myself or a member of the SEN department** they will be confiscated.



Finally, we had the real pleasure of having James Bacon, a giant Ladybird and the Deputy Mayor, Tom Graham, visit us this term discussing the great work they do for Pestalozzi International Village Trust. The pupils learned of the experiences of young people from developing nations and how their education here would serve their communities back home. As a year group, we raised money for this charity and pledged £500. We

started our fundraising by wearing something red and black (ladybird) and a ladybird themed cake sale. Over £550 has been raised and a special thank you to Deputy Mayor, Tom Graham, for judging the 'best' cakes, donating £50 and coming back at lunchtime to sell the cakes.



**PSHEe:** Within term six, very appropriately, we will be examining parliament, citizenship and democracy along with reflecting on all our successes and planning for the future.

Mr Bligh, Pastoral Leader Year 7 ([mrblighj@strichardsgc.com](mailto:mrblighj@strichardsgc.com))

## YEAR EIGHT NEWS

The Easter holiday brought the tragic news of the death of Sophie Taylor in form 8H. She has left our sight but is firmly in our hearts and minds as we move forward together. We are grateful for her life and also the care that she was given. Year 8 pupils are already actively raising money for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity and we continue to think of further ideas to raise more money. If you wish to donate, please access the following webpage: [www.royalmarsden.org/donate](http://www.royalmarsden.org/donate)

Term 4 was very busy and saw Year 8 pupils receive summative reports and experience Parents' Consultation evening. It was excellent to see so many parents and carers attend and the feeling was certainly very positive.

**Parental Survey:** Thank you to the 70 families who completed the survey on the Consultation evening. I was delighted to see that 96% of you were satisfied or more with how 'your son/daughter is doing' at school. I hope that the remainder have been able to source the information they need to help their child move forward. Similarly, all but one respondent felt that their child was 'safe and happy' at school. I am well aware from my day to day work, that pupils are not always happy. I encourage you to share problems and concerns with us at an early stage in order that we can intervene and restore things swiftly. Thank you for the additional comments and questions. Please find responses below to some of the points made.

Behaviour: Instances of poor behaviour to and from school are always managed in school. Please do make us aware if you witness any of our pupils falling below the expected standard of conduct.

Transportation: We are not able to fund transport to school on strike days. The recent budget cuts have put real pressure on staffing and all other costs so this is simply not possible. We have used our school minibuses to pick up pupils from certain locations where they would probably find that the replacement bus is already full when it arrives.

To clarify regarding mobile phone usage: pupils are only permitted to use their mobile phones at the station when there is a significant delay or indeed at any location where there is an emergency.

Bullying: Thank you for various comments regards bullying. Please do bring any suspicion of bullying to our attention, as soon as possible, so we can intervene. To clarify one point: we do have a zero tolerance to bullying but cannot deal with it unless it is reported.

New Assessment Measures: Several comments regarding the clarity of new assessments, with respect to the new GCSE grades, were made. It has been a transition year for all schools managing without levels and moving towards the GCSE new 1-9 grades. Please do make the specific subject teacher your first port of call if you have a question or would like clarity. The GCSE courses are moving from controlled assessments to exams and pupils need to be both familiar with testing and resilient.

Staff Conduct: We expect everyone within the school community to interact courteously and in a respectful manner. If you have a concern regarding any member of staff, please seek an appointment with a member of the Leadership and Management Team. Thank you for the plethora of comments affirming the endless good work that the staff team at St Richard's undertake. It is always satisfying to hear your positive and appreciative feedback. Thank you also for the additional comments highlighting certain subjects and members of staff. Remember if you ever need to raise a concern in this area please make an appointment with a member of the Leadership and Management Team.

**Charity work:** We are focusing on raising money in memory of Sophie for The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. Sophie's form held a doughnut sale last week to start things off. In term 4, form 8R and Mrs Scott held a charity wheelchair basketball game for Cancer Research and raised a modest £18. In addition, Mr Curtis and form 8I raised £76.49 via a doughnut sale for Demelza House.



During the Lenten period, you will remember that I challenged the Year 8 pupils to fill 40 bags in 40 days to donate to Oxfam and help the 'Disasters Emergency Committee' raise money to combat the famine in East Africa.

<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/>

Literally a car full of donations, thank you all so much.



I can confirm that the 'Wear a Hat Day' on the last day of term 4 was a success. We happily donated £118 to Brain Tumour Research. There were many creative and interesting hats (as you can see) and I hope this can become an annual fundraising event in Year 8.



**PSHEe:** All classes have now experienced input from the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. Current work is focussing on 'Citizenship and Diversity.' During term 5 and into term 6, all classes will be moving on to work related to: 'Careers', 'Financial Capability' and 'Risk'.

**Liturgy:** On Tuesday, 9th May, 8I performed a lovely form service on the theme of courage. Deacon Ian

joined Mr Lahache, Mrs Grant and their form to share thoughts, readings and drama on the theme. The pupils were genuinely surprised that Deacon Ian confessed that he is still nervous and seeks courage before each service. 8H and Miss Auzinger will be conducting a form service on Tuesday, 16th May. I know Sophie will be at the centre of the liturgy and I look forward to hearing their treasured memories of her. In the last week of term 5, Year 8 will be enjoying a year group Mass led by Father Rajesh.

**Trips, Events, Clubs & Rewards:** Many Year 8 pupils are currently working hard as part of this year's musical production, entitled 'Our House.' I know Mrs Dunster will be plugging it soon, but I thought I'd sow the seed early. We have many Year 8 pupils amongst the 65 strong cast performing the 'jukebox' style musical through the music of Madness. Please do book early once tickets go on sale. The dates to note are: 12th, 13th and 14th of July, curtain up at 7pm.

Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys' Football Team who reached the final of the English Schools Area Cup. Despite holding out to nearly half time, they lost 4-0 to a strong Year 8 team from Ark William Parker Academy.

Here we have the most recent winners of the termly credit raffle. We have many pupils who work so hard lesson after lesson. I hope they enjoy spending their vouchers.



The winter has finally come to an end and we are now enjoying lighter nights. Please do discuss extra-curricular activities with your sons and daughters and encourage them to get involved if they haven't done so already.

Mr Carradine, Pastoral Leader Year 8 ([mrcarradinee@strichardscc.com](mailto:mrcarradinee@strichardscc.com))

## YEAR NINE NEWS

Once again Year 9 have had a very busy term with a multitude of social, charity and extra-curricular events!

**Rewards and Prizes:** Throughout Year 9, pupils have collected Prize Points, attendance points and behaviour points. The form with the highest score from term 4 and joint winners of the Year 9 Achievement Cup were 9O and 9U. Congratulations to Miss Chong and Mrs Carradine and their form groups. Special mention should also go to Mrs Robertson's form, 9L, for their impressive credit haul once again and Mrs Carradine and 9U for their superb attendance in term 4.

Each term, individuals are selected for their exceptional attitude, effort and work ethic. Winners of the term 4 Star Pupil Award are: Patrick Willis, Loralie Yeates, Dominic Sharp, Trinity Funnell, Lexie Coleman, Louis Byrne, Emilia Suggitt, Guy Fox, Archie Connor and Ashlin Davidson. Well done and keep up the hard work! Furthermore, each term, 3 individuals are rewarded at random for not appearing on the misbehaviour log (Sims) in the 'fruit machine raffle' choosing one of three prizes - a £10 Amazon voucher, early lunch pass or a large box of chocolates. The winners were Loralie Yeates 9R, Mary-Anne Terry 9O and Marcus Bastin 9H. Well done to the 104 pupils who managed to stay off Sims in term 4. Keep up the hard work and focus in class.

**PSHEe:** Year 9 have been focussing on some crucial topics in PSHEe this term, looking at careers culminating in two talks from external speakers: Errol Lawson from the Art of Brilliance and Jay Wooten, Hastings Direct on the importance of first impressions and CV writing.

As part of looking at future careers and study options, selected Year 9 pupils were treated to a Business Studies team bridge building challenge organised by Sussex Coast College students overseen by former pupils. If you have any queries concerning careers, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Adams: [mrsadamsa@strichardscc.com](mailto:mrsadamsa@strichardscc.com).



Pupils will continue to study citizenship and human rights with a particular focus on their rights, responsibilities and diversity of cultures throughout the remainder of Term 5.



**Assemblies:** Year 9 have been lucky enough to have had a very informative assembly performed by their peers in term 4. Mrs Wood and 9R's assembly on 'Loyalty' and Miss Chong and 9O's assembly on 'Our global identity' were well received by the pupils. Well done 9R and 9O.

**Spiritual Life:** Miss Crawley and 9I had a superb Form Service Mass with the theme 'self-acceptance' which was led by Deacon Ian. Well done to all who contributed to make it a really spiritual experience.

**Feedback from Pupil Voice Term 4:** Term 4 Pupil Voice once again included questions on pupils' well-being and happiness in school. On average pupils rated their well-being, self-esteem, happiness and motivation at 7/10.

**Extra-curricular:** There are plenty of extra-curricular clubs and activities for Year 9 pupils to get involved in at lunchtimes and afterschool. Please encourage your child's attendance at one club

per term. A reminder that Prep Club and Prep Club Plus run every week Monday to Thursday afterschool to further support pupils with their homework.

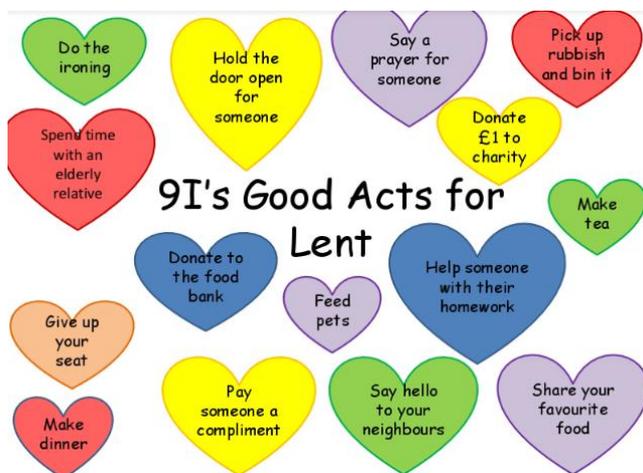
**Charity Events:** The Year 9 Lip Sync Battle in term 4 raised £239.15 for "Get Neil Walking," a charity for a parent of a child in the year group currently suffering with MS. We have one further year wide event planned for term 6. In addition individual forms held the following Lenten charity events:

9F raised £100 by putting on a Cake sale in aid of Stacey Percival-Hide's Cancer fight.  
 9L raised £56 completing a loose change collection and form donations to Demelza House in memory of their care for Sophie Taylor.



## Lip Sync Battle- Champions!

£240 Raised! Well done to all who took part and supported the event!



### 9I's Good Acts for Lent

9O raised £41.52 with an inter-form penalty shoot-out in aid of "Get Neil Walking".

9U raised £62.55 with a Mother's Day hamper raffle in aid of "Get Neil Walking".

9R raised £10 in aid of TOFS.

9I raised £260.90 in the form of good deeds for Lent to raise money to purchase a well for a village.

9S are planning an egg and spoon relay in term 5.

9H raised £44.26 with an Easter Egg raffle in aid of "Get Neil Walking".



Well done to all pupils for their hard work in their various charity endeavours; it was great to see such passion and spirited fundraising!

**Important dates for your diary:** Year 9 reports will be compiled during term 5 and will be distributed to parents in term six.

Many thanks in anticipation for your continued support. Wishing you an enjoyable, end of term 5 break.

Mr Campbell, Pastoral Leader Year 9 ([mrcampbellj@strichardscc.com](mailto:mrcampbellj@strichardscc.com))

## YEAR TEN NEWS

**CHARITY WORK:** Thank you to the Year 10 pupils who have organised and supported our fundraising events this academic year, particularly during Lent. Your efforts are appreciated. Events included: cake sales, Easter egg raffles, sponsored events, supporting the CAFOD sponsored walk and sweet sales.

10F are in the process of organising a charity football match.

10L organised the Christmas 10eLf post - delivering candy canes, raising £30.

10U did the Amazing Chocolate Tombolathon and raised just short of £200 for Demelza House.

10R organised a cake sale for St Michael's Hospice and have send funds to support SOS Children's Village, Siem Reap, Cambodia. Furthermore, Bonzinyah Somarib and Bennett Ben Mathew organised a doughnut sale which was very successful.

10I continue to support 'Lend with Care' and have also raised £50 for Demelza House.

10S held a chocolate raffle and raised £35. Primrose Munro and Katie Nash organised a cupcake sale for Marie Curie Cancer and raised £20. Callum Ralph and Chris Varghese did the sponsored walk for CAFOD and raised £70 between them.

10H pupils, Emily Wheeler, Phoebe Hemsley, Sophie Whitbourn and Olivia Robertson raised £37 for Mr Bligh's Guide Dog collection. Panashe Makwiramiti helped boys from another form with a daily cake sale over one week in aid of CAFOD.

**WORK EXPERIENCE:** As part of our WEX preparation, Mrs Adams organised an Alumni morning for Year 10 pupils. This proved to be a most interesting and informative event. Four former pupils were invited into college and spoke about their educational experiences and pathways and offered invaluable advice about gaining work experience and interview technique. It was an excellent morning.

Almost all of Year 10 pupils have now been offered a place for their Work Experience week which commences on Monday, 26th June and ends on Friday 30th June. All parental/pupil agreement forms should now be returned. Please see Mrs Adams with any queries or issues.

Our WEX preparation day will be held on Tuesday, 6th June. Pupils will be expected to wear formal interview clothes and will have a one-to-one interview with an employer who will inspect their CV and provide feedback on that and the pupil's interview technique.

**PSHEe:** This term, the focus in PSHEe is very much on work experience and preparation for the WEX morning and the actual WEX week.

**YEAR 10 MOCK EXAMS:** The Year 10 exams took place from Monday, 8th to Tuesday, 16th May. The pupils approached the exams in a mature and responsible manner and took the opportunity to use the week as good practice for their GCSE examinations next year. I am hoping to see their hard work and revision reflected in their results.

**YEAR 10 INTERVENTION SESSIONS AND INTERVENTION GROUP:** Please understand that if your son/daughter is asked to attend an intervention session after school by their subject teacher then he/she is expected to do so. It is not optional. The sessions are being run to support the pupils' learning. The same applies to the intervention group that is run by myself and Mr Tadros Monday-Wednesday until 4.30pm.

**PREFECTS:** A selection of Year 10 pupils will be appointed to take on the role of temporary prefects when the Year 11 Prefects begin their GCSE examinations on 15th May. This does not necessarily mean that these pupils will become permanent prefects from September: they will have to apply for Prefect Status, but it will go a long way to indicate whether or not they can demonstrate the leadership qualities needed to fulfil the role.

Prefect selection will take place in term 6. Pupils will receive clear information about what they need to do to apply in an assembly early in term 6. They will need to show that they have been collecting prefect points and working towards The CREST Award, alongside a supporting letter which outlines their contributions to the life of the school to date. Our streamlining of Prefects last year produced a very strong, effective and hard working group of Year 11 prefects who led our school incredibly well. We hope for the same from the new team.

Those pupils interested in the role of Head Girl/Boy or Deputy Head Girl/Boy should be aware that they will need to attend an interview with members of the senior management team and Governing Body. They will also need to be filmed for a one minute presentation to pupils on why they should be elected to these important roles. Perhaps a time for thinking this all through is this coming holiday.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns/queries.

With best wishes,

Miss Easton, Pastoral Leader Year 10 ([misseastonk@strichardscc.com](mailto:misseastonk@strichardscc.com))

## YEAR ELEVEN NEWS

We continue to be delighted with the conduct and attitude of Year 11. I am particularly pleased with the amount of pupils staying for after school revision sessions and indeed for the attendance on Saturday mornings and during the holidays as well. The latest copy of the revision schedule is below and has been emailed out to parents recently. We realise this is a challenging time for

them as they have now entered into the full swing of the examinations and we are doing all we can to support them through it. I advise attendance at revision sessions, as well as private revision at home, as it is vital in achieving success in this summer's exams. Seeing 80-120 pupils stay every evening for specific revision and intervention is very heartening indeed. It has enabled me to send home 14 more postcards to congratulate Year 11 pupils on their hard work and positive attitude to their revision. Please be aware that all revision sites and resources are available on the Google Drive in the Year 11 Revision Folder. The revision timetable is below.

Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday All AM
22nd May	Media Studies Drama	Science Lab 6 Business Studies	Maths	English L2	History Lab 6	
29th May Half term All AM	<b>Bank holiday</b>	History Lab 6 Geography A10 9.00-11.15am	Business Studies CIT 9.00-11.00am English Mrs Hills 10am-12pm	German B4/B5 10am-12pm	Music in Music Block	Classics A11 10.00-11.00am History 11.15am-12.15pm
5th June	English Language Geography A10	History Lab 6 Nazi Germany  Computing AIT	German	Maths CC Tech 3	Science Lab 6 THH/PT	History 10.45-12.00 Science Lab 6 9.30-10.45am English Mrs Hills' class 10am-12pm
12th June	Maths	History Lab 6 Physics Lab 7		Maths CC Tech 3 Biology Lab 6	Chemistry Science Block	
19th June	History Lab 6 Surgery	Physics Lab 7 Stats TBC		<b>Prom</b>		

**Yearbook:** I am pleased with the help and assistance from Year 11 with compiling and constructing this year's yearbook. Particular mention must go to Jayan Jackson and Robyn Harlow. It is not yet complete but as soon as it is I will contact you via email with details of how you can purchase a copy from [allyearbooks.com](http://allyearbooks.com).

**School IT and dinner accounts** will be closed on the day of each pupil's final examination. Can I remind all pupils that they must be in full and correct uniform throughout the entire examination period. They must also ensure that they have completed their leavers' form which confirms they have returned all books and paid all outstanding monies.

**Prom:** The Prom takes place on Thursday, 22nd June. Please ensure that if you are hiring a limousine that it is correctly licensed. East Sussex Police carry out regular checks in Prom season and it would spoil the whole evening if your son or daughter's car was stopped that night. Prom points have been awarded this year for excellent work and helpfulness and I would advise Year 11 to collect them and get them signed to gain money off their prom ticket. Every 50 Prom points achieved results in a £5 reduction (maximum reduction £15). Letters have been handed to each pupil regarding the prom and a copy with the relevant details has been emailed to all Year 11 parents/carers.

**Leavers' BBQ:** A Leavers' BBQ will replace Leavers' Day and will occur after the exams. More information will follow soon.

**Train Prefects:** I would like to say thank you to all the train prefects, in particular Lucinda Price-Farmer who has taken her role seriously and really been a credit to the school.

I imagine that this is a very emotional time for both parents and pupils as they come to the end of their time at St Richard's. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and as a staff we have

enjoyed watching the young people grow into such helpful, intelligent and productive young men and women. I have no doubt that they have made you proud and that they will continue to do so in the future. They have been an asset to our school and will be missed dearly. If you have any queries about revision or other issues please email me.

*Mr Doherty, Pastoral Leader Year 11 ([mrdoherlyr@strichardsgcc.com](mailto:mrdoherlyr@strichardsgcc.com))*

### **Reminder to Year 11 Parents/Carers**

Please remember to cancel any standing orders that you may have payable to the school. In the past, Year 11 pupils have left and parents haven't cancelled their standing orders (e.g. gift aid) with their bank so the payments have continued to be deducted from their account.

### **Polo Shirts - Supporting Fairtrade**

Polo shirts will be available for purchase from Reprographics in preparation for term 6. Parents at our Parental Focus Group and pupils from our School Council voted to order Fairtrade polo shirts again this year. These are £9 each. Please be aware before you purchase, that we regularly review our summer uniform and cannot guarantee the use of polo shirts next year. If you would rather not buy a polo shirt for this reason, then short sleeved shirts (worn with the tie) are an alternative. Those wearing polo shirts must ensure they are tucked in neatly at all times.

### **SAFEGUARDING**

Two things have been recently brought to our attention that we see as important to share with you.

#### **Netflix**

There is a series on Netflix called 13 Reasons that at first glance will look like a teen series. This series actually carries Netflix's highest sensor warning and deals with very difficult and emotive issues. It is definitely not suitable for pupils of school age. It is worth checking which TV programmes pupils are accessing as quite often what looks like an age appropriate film is anything but and the topics they cover, whilst important, are better dealt with in a sensitive manner through partnership with home and school.

#### **Alert from Eastbourne**

There has been an alert shared that primary children in Eastbourne were given sweets that had the drug ecstasy in them. This has come from a reliable source so another important reminder about talking to your child about what to do if a stranger approaches them.

#### **Theatre Group - 'Chelsea's Choice'**

Year 9 will be receiving a performance from a theatre group that deals with the topic of child sexual exploitation and online grooming. This will form part of a PSHE unit and is due to take place in school on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June. We consider this to be an essential topic to cover in school. However, if any parent wishes to exclude their child from this, they should contact myself at the college.

*Mrs Bligh - Vice Principal*

## Congratulations to...

Amy and Megan Tattersall were awarded their Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards recently and have now started work on their gold!

Hollie Young, Year 9, is in the Emerging Player Programme at Sussex for cricket and has been training with Sussex Women's 2nd XI. Hollie also, with her Ansty Ladies team mates, won the Vipers/SCF Indoor League recently. Hollie finished with a batting average of 81 and took 4 wickets for a staggeringly low 12 runs, in the matches she played.

Jack Massey, Year 8, who has been selected to compete in the 3D Field Archery National Championship at the end of May.

Sophia Rudko, Year 8, who recently played tennis in Scotland for the Sussex team and made it through to the U14 National Finals in Nottingham. Oskar Lockyer, Year 9, also competed for the Sussex team in Scotland.

Noah Canby, Year 11, who participated, as part of the British Triathlon super series in Llanelli last weekend.

The St Richard's chess team has qualified for the Butler Cup finals on Tuesday, 23rd May. The team will be playing for the Butler Plate (second place).



**Equestrian News:** Amber Townshend came 5th out of 61 competitors in the 70cm Eventers Challenge jumping class at Felbridge in West Sussex on Saturday, 8th April and Megan Bassett came 10th in the 95cm class.

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## Special Educational Needs

**Exams:** Public exams begin this month for Year 11. Please encourage your child to ask their teachers and those supporting them for help with revision strategies, should they need this support.

Pupils should attend all available revision sessions, and continue to use class time and independent study time effectively. Remember the advice you have had towards revision: short blocks of revision are the most valuable; keep changing between subjects to keep your brain busy, and focus on what you find most difficult, not what you find easiest!

Please ensure your child brings water in a clear bottle for their exams, and encourage them to eat and sleep well throughout the exams period. The SEN team wish the very best luck to all pupils.

**Lunchtime Club:** Pupils can come along to the Lunchtime Club in A3, which runs every day for all year groups, for a chance to eat, play games and socialise together. The club is led by a Teaching Assistant.

**Prep Club Plus:** A reminder that pupils in all years with Special Educational Needs can come to Prep Club Plus on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:15pm to 4:15pm in B7. Teaching Assistants are available to help with homework.

*Mr Smith, SENCO and the Learning Support Team*

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### 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, equipment and some funding for educational trips.

**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.

# Careers Information

## CALLING ALL FORMER PUPILS

Did you go to St Richard's Catholic College? If you're a former student who would like to support current pupils, the college would love to hear from you! Right now, there are pupils in the assembly hall where you once sat, facing similar challenges and opportunities that you did. Being connected to you could really help them. The college is one of more than 500 state schools across Britain which has registered with the charity Future First to set up networks of former students or alumni. Future First's vision is that every state school or college should be supported by a thriving, engaged alumni community that helps it to do more for its pupils. More than 50,000 former students across Britain have already signed up to stay connected with their old school. They are inspiring young people in a number of ways: as career and education role models, mentors or e-mentors, work experience providers, governors, donors or fundraisers. It doesn't matter when you left school, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help! You can sign up to Future First's alumni scheme by following this link: <https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student-ms-s1/strichards>

## YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEW MORNING

During PSHEE, Year 10 pupils are currently working on a programme preparing them for their work experience placements. As part of this programme, on Tuesday, 6th June, all of the Year 10 pupils will take part in a morning of activities. This will involve writing letters to their placements, completing medical forms, looking at health and safety and also how to contact their work placements prior to the commencement of the week. The pupils will also have a 20 minute interview with a local employer. The pupils are asked to come to school on this morning dressed appropriately for an interview. This does not mean that the pupils should go and buy new clothes or even suits for this day. I recommend that the boys wear their school shirts and trousers with a different colour tie and that the girls wear a smart skirt or trousers with an appropriate top. High heels, jewellery and make-up are not allowed on this day. The interviewer will comment on the pupils CVs (which they have already prepared in school), their dress and how they answered the questions posed to them.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

All Year 10 pupils must hand in their signed parent/carer agreement form. This must be signed by the parent/carer and the pupil. Without this form the work experience placement will not be allowed to go ahead. If the form has been lost, a replacement can be obtained from me. Before the form is signed, please check the details about any Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which is required for the placement. If there are any problems in supplying the PPE, please contact me as soon as possible.

## CAREERS TIMETABLE

An updated timetable of careers workshops can be found on the school website on the following page: <https://www.strichardsc.com/learning/careers/>

## WORK EXPERIENCE PREPARATION

As part of the preparation for work experience, each pupil is expected to contact their employer via the telephone. This enables the pupil to check vital details such as what to wear, the hours they will be working and who they should report to on their first day. It also reminds the employer that they have a pupil soon arriving for work experience. To help ensure that every pupil has made this contact, please complete the slip below and return to their form tutor, by **Monday, 12th June 2017**. If the employer is not available during the evening, please get your son/daughter to come and see me during the school day and a telephone will be made available. Should you have any questions regarding work experience preparation or the week itself, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Mrs C Adams, Careers and Work Experience Coordinator ([mrsadamsc@strichardsc.com](mailto:mrsadamsc@strichardsc.com))*

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### Work Experience Preparation

Please return to your son/daughter's Form Tutor

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

I can confirm that my son/daughter has contacted their work experience placement via the telephone.

Signed: ..... Parent/Carer



## MFL NEWS

### MFL Club meets

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

### Spanish

This term we have been making good use of our school laptops to research different Spanish speaking countries in Latin America. Pupils have also been learning about the history and culture of Spain through watching the acclaimed television documentaries: "The Art of Spain" and "Spectacular Spain."



A good challenge for pupils is to share a joke in a foreign language. See if you get this one.....  
*¿Qué le dice el 1 al 10? Para ser como yo, tienes que ser sincero.*

### German

A revision session for Year 11 will take place on Thursday, 1st June in B5 from 10:00-12:00.

Support sessions for writing are available in B5 Tuesdays from 3:15-4:00 and Thursday lunchtimes from 12:45-13:10. These are drop-in sessions for anyone in Years 9 & 10 who would like help with writing in German.

Puzzle club is open to all years in B5 Tuesday lunchtimes. If you enjoy puzzles come along and join in the fun.

German Film night is here again! This time we are watching 'Herr der Diebe' (The Thief Lord). Join us in B5 on Wednesday, 24th May and Thursday, 25th May. We will be watching the film over the two evenings from 3:15-4:00.



### French

Starting on Wednesday, 17th May, French Ambassadors (Year 9 and 10) will be working on extended writing skills/creative writing every Wednesday at 1.10pm in B4.

French Trip: We are very excited that our residential visit to the Opal Coast in France is fast approaching. Many thanks to all parents and carers for supporting their children to take part in this trip which we hope will be an enriching and enjoyable experience. There will be a parent/carer meeting on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm in the main hall in order to go through the final itinerary and arrangements. A letter with more details about this meeting will be given to pupils to bring home. If you have any particular questions before the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Chong by phone or email at the college. Just a reminder that each pupil will need his/her own current valid Passport and EHIC which will need to be available by 5th June.

### 'My Chinese Teacher' Mandarin programme 你好

Well done to the group of Year 8 and 9 pupils who have continued to show great enthusiasm and commitment to the 'My Chinese Teacher' Mandarin programme. The pupils are to be congratulated on their increasing confidence and knowledge of the language and culture which has focused this term on family life in China. Our Chinese teacher, Freddy Guo, in Beijing has been impressed by the ability of our pupils to retain so much of what they have learnt since September. In his own words, he praised the pupils in their lesson this week for being 'amazing' and 'geniuses' in their communication skills. We are very grateful to The Magadalen and Lasher Charity who have very generously given us funding for this extra-curricular opportunity.

### Why study Languages?

We were delighted to welcome work experience student, Marta Maxia, into the MFL department for a week in term 4. Marta is an Italian student who is on an international placement studying for a year at Bexhill College. Her language skills were truly inspiring for our pupils



as she has learnt to communicate to a very high level in both English and French. Pupils from all year groups had the opportunity to work with Marta in their French lessons during the week either in group work activities or by having the opportunity for one to one speaking practice in French.

Marta gave a fascinating and engaging ten-minute presentation on the theme of ‘Why study languages?’ to a number of our Year 9 and 10 MFL classes. Her obvious passion and enthusiasm for language learning was infectious. Our pupils could not help but be inspired by Marta’s sharing of her own language learning journey with all its challenges but ultimate sense of achievement and rewarding insight into other cultures.

**Fun Factoids:**

The world’s largest tomato fight “La Tomatina” takes place in the Spanish town of Buñol every August as part of that town’s festival.

The French have many days off at this time of year, including, May 1<sup>st</sup> (Labour Day), May 8th (Armistice Day), May 25th (Ascension Day) and June 4th (Feast of Pentecost).

**Torschlusspanik** is a German word that literally means, “door closing panic.” It is the feeling that life’s opportunities are gradually decreasing as you get older.

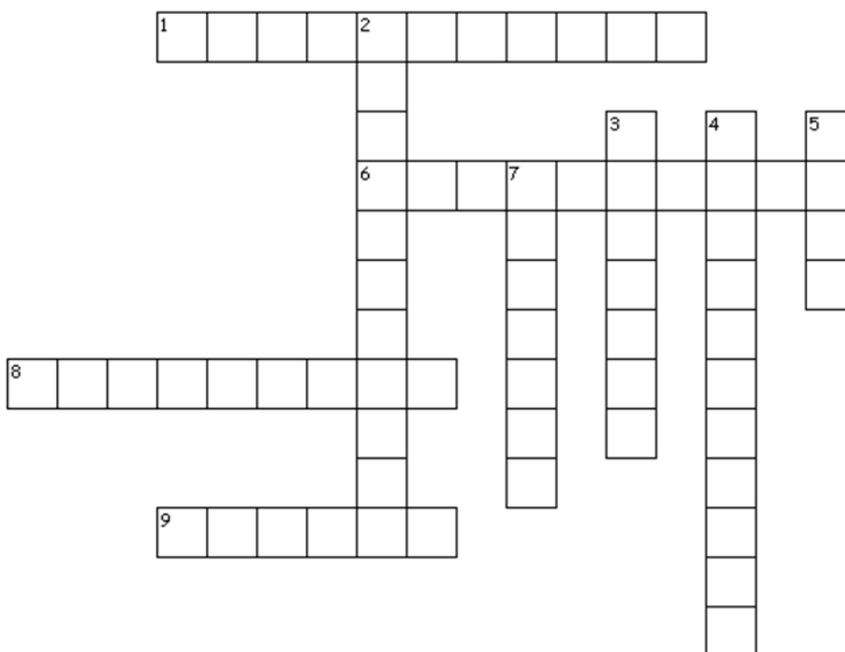
**Exam Season is here! Are you ready?**

Across

- 1. 'a question' in Spanish
- 6. 'to be successful' in Spanish
- 8. 'to answer' in Spanish
- 9. 'to revise' in German

Down

- 2. 'keep calm' in French
- 3. 'to succeed' in French
- 4. 'an exam' in German
- 5. 'grade' in German
- 7. 'to try' in French



*And finally! For all you budding poets out there: there will be a school MFL poetry competition next term.*

**Parallel London - Fun Run and Free Family Festival**

[Parallel London](#) is a fully accessible fun run and free family festival that takes place at the iconic Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on **Sunday, 3rd September**.

There's lots of different ways to take part including a 10km, 5km, 1km, 100m and Super Sensory 1km. Whatever age or ability, Parallel London is a unique opportunity for families to get active and participate Side by Side.

Alongside the fun run, the free family festival is a celebration of inclusivity that takes place throughout the day with a range of activities, performances and great food.

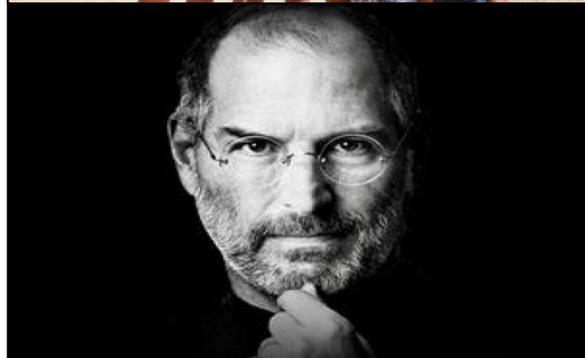
Summer term has started and the sun is shining, get outside and start your family training programme while raising money for a cause that matters to you.



# COMPUTING AND ICT DEPARTMENT

I am always asked the question regarding mobile phones/tablets/laptops and young people's use of these devices. While each family decide how and when their children can and have access to either device and how to disconnect from the internet, I thought I would provide you with a snippet of an interview I found with Bill Gates founder of Microsoft and a quote from the late Steve Jobs founder of Apple.

*Bill Gates has spoken out in an interview saying he doesn't think children should be allowed to own a smartphone until they're 14. The move has been lauded by technology and parenting experts, who have argued that parents should resist the urge to indulge children in tech for as long as possible. The world's richest man for the fourth year running has said he and wife Melinda banned their three children from owning phones until they were 14. Bill and Melinda also set limits on screen time, so as to allow more time talking with family. Speaking to a British newspaper, the billionaire touched on their set of rules and the discipline enforced.*



*"We don't have cell phones at the table when we are having a meal; we didn't give our kids cell phones until they were 14, and they complained other kids got them earlier," he said. "We often set a time after which there is no screen time and, in their case, that helps them get to sleep at a reasonable hour. You're always looking at how it can be used in a great way – homework and staying in touch with friends – and also where it has gotten to excess."*

*Before he passed away, Apple co-founder Steve Jobs famously answered a question from a New York Times reporter, asking him 'What do your children think about the new iPad?' by saying that they wouldn't know, because they're banned in his house.*

Thank you to tenplay.com for use of their article.

<https://tenplay.com.au/news/national/april-2017/Bill%20Gates-reveals-the-safe-minimum-age-for-kids-to-get-a-smartphone>

Mr Fegan, Subject Leader - Computing and ICT

## SSAT Awards 2017

St Richard's has been nationally recognised for its exceptional 2016 performance by the Schools, Students and Teachers Network (SSAT). Education outcomes and data analysis from SSAT has shown that the school is in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for attainment and progress.

Mrs Bligh collected the awards on behalf of the whole school community at a special awards ceremony in London on Wednesday, 17th May.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, congratulated St Richard's on their excellent 2016 performance stating that she knew how hard teachers work to ensure the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the pupils at St Richard's Catholic College. A big thank you and well done to the pupils, staff and Governors.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### 'Our House' Show Rehearsals

Every Tuesday and Thursday in the college hall, the show cast meet for an hour and a half to rehearse for this summer's show. Just a reminder please, for all cast to be there for every rehearsal unless you need to be absent with prior agreement from one of the Performing Arts team. It's looking and sounding brilliant so far!

### Zooquarium

This is a music festival for young people, taking place on Hastings pier on Saturday, 15th July. Organisers and mentors are coming into school to talk to our young people about this exciting venture, which is open to 14 – 21 year olds.

### Parish Mass

The St Mary Star of the Sea, Hastings Parish Mass took place on Sunday, 14th May. A range of new material was used and was well-received by the congregation. Thank you to the choir.

### Exams Success!

Congratulations to Luca Wells who has passed his Grade 8 Classical Guitar exam with distinction. Congratulations to Louis Byrne, Oliver Tattersall and Bradley Ayres, who have all passed drumming exams recently and Solomon Dillon who has passed his Grade 5 Piano exam. If anyone else has passed music exams recently, please come and see us so that we can celebrate your achievement!

### David Pickard Visit, Director of BBC Proms and Former General Director, Glyndebourne Productions Ltd

David gave talks to Year 10 and Year 7 pupils this week, about his many roles in the performing arts industry. This was a really interesting session, and the pupils involved enjoyed it immensely.

*Mr Roadknight, Subject Leader – Music*

## DRAMA DEPARTMENT

### Our House

Rehearsals are well under way, and the summer production of 'Our House' is set to be a musical extravaganza! Keep up the good work everyone, it's a long and hard process putting a show together, but the end result is worth every minute. We can't wait for you all to come along and enjoy it; posters will be up soon and keep an eye out for information on ticket sales. If any parents/carers are willing to help with costume, set painting, props sourcing or chaperoning - please do get in touch on the email below. Any support is always gratefully received.

### Liturgy

The **Year 8 Drama Club** produced another poignant and polished performance in the Easter service, using 'The Parable of the Sower' as their stimulus. The piece delivered the message that 'you get out of life what you put in' and they played an integral part in the delivery of the Easter message. Well done to all pupils who took part; your contribution to liturgical life is exemplary!

The **Year 7 Drama Club** also performed a devised piece at the Parish Mass at



St Mary Star of the Sea on Sunday, 14th May. The piece was based on the theme 'In God We Trust,' which told the story of a Syrian refugee child. Well done to all pupils involved: your commitment to rehearsals and your fantastic imaginations really added to the service. Thank you to Mrs Grant for all your hard work!



### National Theatre Connections

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Year 10 GCSE class performed at the famous Marlowe



Theatre in Canterbury as part of the National Theatre's 'Connections' festival – and as promised here are some pictures of this momentous occasion....

### GCSE Drama

As the end draws closer, I would like to say how proud I am of the Year 11 pupils and how impressed I was with the quality of their final pieces. The talent of St Richard's pupils has never failed to astonish me, and it has been a pleasure to watch them all grow as performers over the last two years. I'd like to wish them all the best for the future; I know they'll achieve the grades they deserve in August!

### Meanwhile....

There are a lot of exciting projects bubbling away under the surface in the drama department, including Shakespeare workshops with the local primary schools; delivery of The Arts Award; links with Bexhill College; visiting theatre professionals and future theatre trips – more information to follow, so watch this space!

Mrs Dunster, Subject Leader - Drama ([mrsdunsters@strichardsc.com](mailto:mrsdunsters@strichardsc.com))

## ART DEPARTMENT



I would like to officially thank Miss Field, who joined us from Brighton University on her second school placement. On behalf of the whole department I would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her every success in her future teaching career.

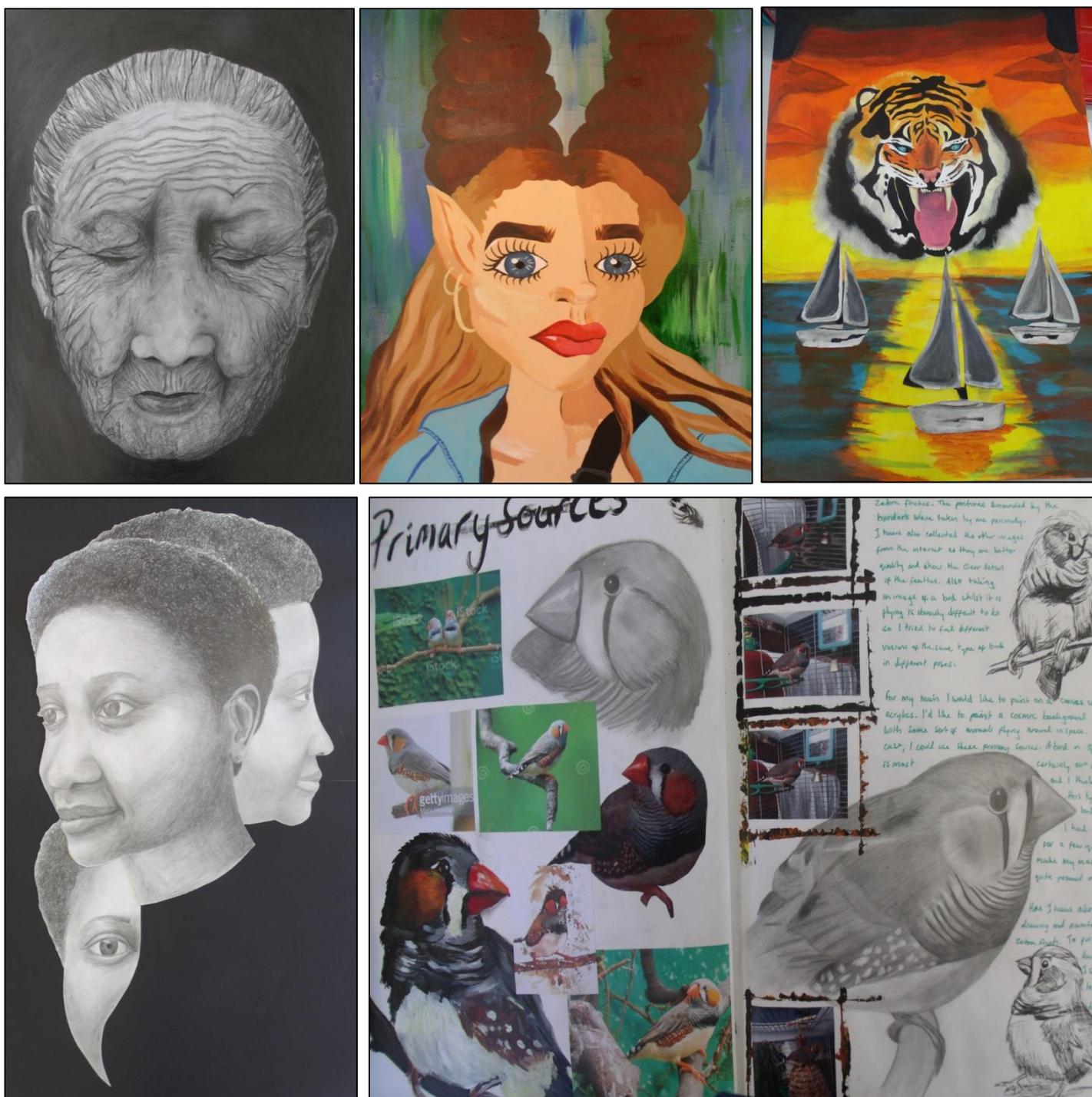
Congratulations to Moe Murray who won the Lions' Peace Poster Competition. The Lions came into College to present Moe with her prize. I include the winning certificate and award here. Congratulations must also go to Anique Crouch

who won the runner-up prize.

All our pupils are making really positive progress in the Art Department. **Year 7** are working with enthusiasm on the stage design for 'Our House'. In Fine Art and in Art and Design they are about to paint their nightlights. **Year 8** have made their highly original teapot designs in ceramics. Ms Pennington's group are producing some wonderful observational watercolour work. **Year 9** are working on various media skills and research based study and have constructed a Ceramic Fish Mobile, and the Quarter Portraits Project in Fine Art is progressing nicely. The **Year 10** GCSE group



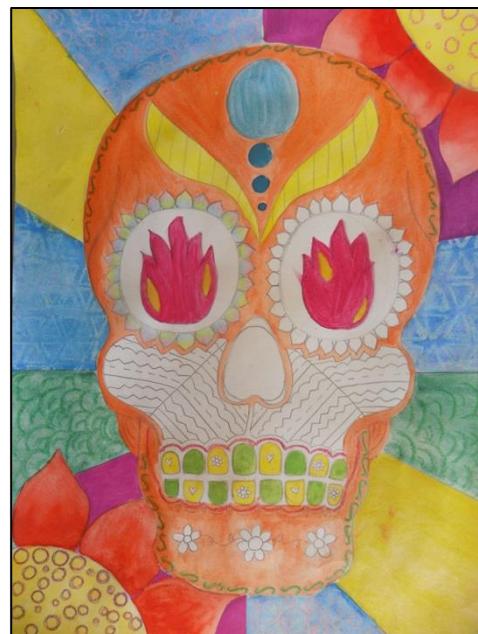
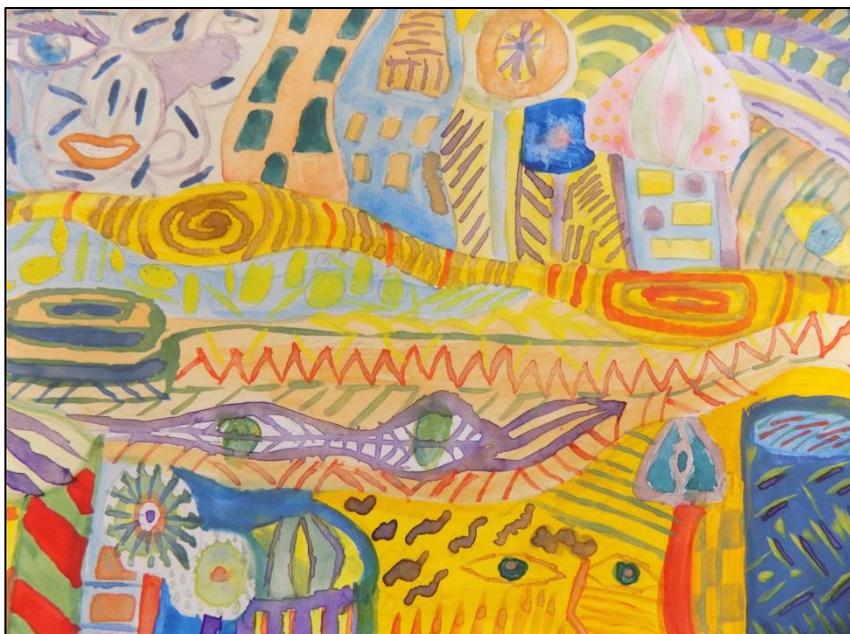
are continuing to build on their excellent half year on the course demonstrating pride in all their sketchbooks. The Art and Design group are developing their exam portfolio and finishing their Mock exam, and the Fine Art group are producing some lovely portrait work. **Year 11** are concentrating on sketchbook based portfolio coursework now that the exam is finished. We had some stunning results.



We have planned some more exciting enrichment projects for the rest of this year for our pupils. Year 10 GCSE Art pupils are beginning a fantastic project with the DLWP and artist Felicity Truscott next week. The pupils will visit the Simon Patterson exhibition at the DLWP and will meet the artist, Simon Patterson, and ask him questions about his work. Pupils will then take part in an exciting drawing workshop with artist, Felicity Truscott, at the DLWP and a second workshop in school next term. You can read more about the exhibition and artists here [www.dlwp.com/exhibition/simon-patterson](http://www.dlwp.com/exhibition/simon-patterson) <http://www.felicitytruscott.com/>. Ten Year 7 pupils are taking part in a fantastic sound project with the De La Warr Pavillion. Pupils will visit the Simon Patterson exhibition before it opens to the public for a preview of his work and will then be recorded discussing the work. The recordings may end up as part of the exhibition for visitors to listen to. You can read more about the exhibition here [www.dlwp.com/exhibition/simon-patterson](http://www.dlwp.com/exhibition/simon-patterson).

Finally, we are running a **GCSE Art trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London**. The pupils will take part in a workshop run by the V&A learning team to help develop their GCSE Art coursework. The pupils will also visit the exhibition – Their Mortal Remains, an experience that will be a spectacular and unparalleled audio-visual journey through Pink Floyd's unique and extraordinary worlds; chronicling the music, design, and staging of the band, from their debut in the 1960s through to the present day.

*Mr Peachment, Subject Leader – Art*



## The CREST Award

Congratulations to the following pupils who have gained a bronze, silver or gold CREST Award:

**Gold:** Avrey Camenforte, William Carey, Hannah Claasen, Serena Coyle, Elizabeth Craze, Maria Crowter, Patrycja Dabrowska, Millie Davey, Steeve Davis, Fleur Durrant, Jack Eaton, Katarzyna Fedor, Florence Forde, Monica Gibbs, Lucy Gwynne, Zoe Hamer, Robyn Harlow, Hannah Heggie, Lucy Jackson, Jayan Jackson, Troy Kamangala, Paola Lai, Ethan Macdonald, Laura Nobrega, Tadi Nyamajiwa, Poppy Osman, Ella Pickles, Zak Radbourne, Emilie-Jayne Ralph, Natalia Srodek, Chesly Sunny, Amy Tattersall, Megan Tattersall, Jitsy Juda Thadevus, Luca Wells, Chloe Wilkinson, Kimberly Soriano, Lucinda Hamilton-Burns, Sean Murray & Ben Stotesbury-Byrne.

**Silver:** Luca Auld, Edward Ball, Russell Beattie, Lelia Bowler, Tye Champion, Katherine Durbidge, Tom Durrant, Elisha Edwards, Liana Espiritu, Elizabeth Godson, Alienor Gregg-Smith, Caitlin Hall, Harry Hawkins, Tallulah Heeson, Alisha Hunter, Roshana Iruthayaraj, George Kee, Rumbidzai Mapanzure, Gabriele Mercado, Abraham Rey, Rebecca Standen, Louie Sullivan, Megan Symes, Dominic Tadros, Emma Van Zutphen, Daniel Dean, Joe Burford, Angel Joy, Elvita Blinova, Poppy Derhun, Anisha Kamboj, Theodore Tadros & Stephanie Puri.

**Bronze:** Noah Canby, Connor Chicken, Thomas Coleman, Zak Davis, Chantelle Fullam, Antonio Fuscuardi, Meg Isaacs, Emily Kimber, Max Lai, Joyce Ng, Aidan Phillips, Harry Rumary, Maria Stylianou, Oliver Tattersall, Chloe Upton, Alexandra Williams, Danny Willis, Anthony Smith, Ciara Farrell, Jessica Davies, Hannah Jones, Rachael McCartney, Annabel Field & Panashe Makwiramiti.

### The Crest: Passport to Success

1. Collect your log book from your tutor
  2. Fill in each reflection and provide sufficient evidence
  3. Get signed off by the relevant teacher
  4. Collect a bronze badge for 4 letters, silver for 6 and gold for all 8.
- Any pupil unsure of how to achieve the Award should see Mr Holloway in Lab 6.



## History Department News

Firstly the department would like to congratulate Miss Neilan on her recent marriage to Mr Fegan. We wish Mr and Mrs Fegan every happiness in their new life together.

**HISTORY CLUB.** The History Club runs weekly in A2 on Tuesday lunchtimes. Pupils are currently working on entries for the Historical Association's 'Historical Fiction' competition. New members are always welcome.

Congratulations to last term's Egg Project winners and runners-up:

1st - Dilys Cornford, Year 9

2nd - Grace McMillan, Year 8

3rd - Daniel Guldemon, Year 7

Runners-up were: Andrea De Freitas Rodriguez, Nuala Andrews and Nuala O'Rourke.



Mr Doherty's Year 7 History class members from left to right with their winning Hastings castle projects: Thalia, Megan, Ben, Matt, Edward and Duarte

**YEAR 9:** With options choices selected, Year 9 will be completing their Key Stage 3 History/Geography studies this term and will begin their chosen option subject in term 6. This is a significant turning point for all pupils as they will now be beginning the new GCSE History 9-1 course. I would like to remind pupils and parents that we will be following the Edexcel History 2016 course and will be covering the following topics across Years 10 and 11.

\* *Medicine in Britain, c1250-present and The*

*British sector of the Western Front, 1914-1918: injuries, treatment and the trenches*

\* *The American West, 1835-1895*

\* *Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39*

\* *Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060-88*

Term 6 will commence with the Nazi Germany unit and pupils are encouraged to begin researching into Hitler and his life over the May break in preparation for this.

**YEAR 10:** Year 10 worked extremely hard over the mock exam period and I would like to congratulate them on their maturity and focus. As we progress into term 6, we will continue to study Nazi Germany and I ask that pupils ensure their books are up to date with all work for both this, and the Medicine unit. Please see your class teacher if you have any gaps or concerns.

**YEAR 11:** Year 11 are reminded that revision sessions will continue for History into term 6 for all three

examined papers. Pupils have been well prepared in school for these exams but are reminded that nothing can replace independent focussed revision. Please make use of all of the resources that you have been given and do the very best that you can. If you have any questions or concerns about the exams please speak to your History teacher as soon as possible. The very best of luck to all of our Year 11 pupils as you begin your exams. We have every faith in you.

*Mrs Campbell, Subject Leader for History*

## Parents, Teachers & Friends Association NEWS

Once again, the PTFA have provided refreshments at school events over the past few weeks.

Lots of preparation is underway for the Summer Fayre which will take place on Saturday, 17th June this year. It is always a lovely event for all the family to enjoy. Do come along if you can!

Donations for the raffle and stalls will be gratefully received. A letter will be sent home soon about this. If you would like to help out on the day, please do (you do not have to be a PTFA member!) Please let us know so we have an idea of who to expect. Even if you would like to help for an hour or two it would be great.

Thanks to Adam Seeley, there is now a Facebook page for the PTFA which can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/srccptfa/>. This will be used to publicise events only.

Our next meeting is on Monday, 5th June at 7.00pm in the staff room. All welcome.

Finally, on behalf of the PTFA, may I wish all pupils who are going to sit GCSE Examinations over the next few weeks all the very best.

Best wishes

*Heather Mulligan*  
(Joint Chair with Lisa Segal)

**ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

**SUMMER**

**FAYRE**

**Saturday,**  
**17th June**  
**11.00am - 2.00pm**

**~ GRAND RAFFLE ~**  
**Bungee Run ~ STALLS**  
**BBQ ~ FACE PAINTING**  
**Tombolas ~ CAKES**  
**Inflatable Slide**

## Geography News



### Learning about our climate

This term the Geography department was very excited to take delivery of a brand new technological treat - new weather measuring equipment, including digital thermo-anemometers, laser distance meters, and high-tech environment meters. This equipment has already enabled and will continue to enable pupils to accurately measure a range of environmental factors including: humidity, wind speed, temperature, sound and carbon dioxide levels. So far, Year 7 pupils have researched the range of microclimates around the college. They have collected data and analysed their findings. In the coming months Year 8 pupils will venture to Galley Hill in Bexhill to investigate coastal defences and erosion in their Coastal Processes

Project using the equipment to understand the impact of the weather on natural coastal processes. The department hopes that the new additions will continue to inspire and enthuse pupils to explore their local environments, whilst developing and expanding their Geographical knowledge.

### The day Google came to visit...

We were incredibly fortunate to have been visited by Google who brought their virtual reality headsets for pupils to experience a whole range of locations around the world. This amazing opportunity helped pupils from across all Key Stages to see the places that they had learnt about in lessons up close. The immersive experience enabled them to explore individually such locations as the Amazon Rainforests, the Great Barrier Reef, Rio de Janeiro and Nepal after the devastating earthquake in 2015. The event was so popular that we even ran two sessions after school.



### South of England Show Visit

Geography pupils are eagerly awaiting their maiden trip to the South of England Show on Friday, 9th June. Pupils have been personally invited for making great progress or continually producing outstanding homework alongside their excellent attitudes to learning in geography. The 30 strong trip will experience a livestock tour from a pastoral farmer, before exploring the show's vast and expansive range of exhibitions, showcases and events, including the ever-popular sheep and pig racing. Pupils have also been shortlisted by Miss Cronin and teachers from the English and geography departments to enter the poetry and flower competitions which celebrate the 50th anniversary of the South of England Agricultural Society. Look out in the next newsletter for photographs of the trip.

### Year 10 to visit Eastbourne

As part of the GCSE preparation, Year 10 Geographers will spend the day with the department visiting Eastbourne on Wednesday, 21st June. They will be investigating the stretch of coastline around Eastbourne to understand the variety of coastal management techniques used as well as the differing environmental qualities found in urban areas. Pupils will collect their own primary data which will then be analysed in class and form their understanding for Paper 3. We are praying for good weather!

Speak to your Geography teacher for details of the next Geography outing, and regularly check the Geography department trip noticeboard, opposite A2.



*Mrs Hoyle, Subject Leader - Geography*

## 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. For some subjects, funding is also available. Applications are now open on UCAS.

Have a look on the college's website under 'Teaching Schools, Initial Teacher Training' or contact [mrswoode@strichardsc.com](mailto:mrswoode@strichardsc.com) for more information.

<p><b>INTERESTED IN A TEACHING CAREER? WANT TO TRAIN LOCALLY? COME TO OUR ITT (INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING) FAYRE</b></p> <p><b>WHEN</b> June 10th 9am – 12pm</p> <p><b>WHERE</b> St Richard's Catholic College Ashdown Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1SE</p> <p>MEET PROVIDERS FROM SCHOOLS, THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND UNIVERSITIES FROM ACROSS EAST SUSSEX</p> <p><a href="http://www.strichardsc.com">www.strichardsc.com</a></p>	<p><b>PRIMARY AND SECONDARY</b></p> <p><b>IT'S NOT TOO LATE!</b></p> <p><b>YOUR CHANCE TO ASK QUESTIONS</b></p> <p><b>LEARN MORE ABOUT ROUTES INTO TEACHING</b></p> <p><b>MEET RECENTLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS</b></p> <p><b>DROP IN AT A TIME THAT SUITS YOU</b></p> <p><b>FIND A SCHOOL PLACEMENT</b></p> <p><b>GET ADVICE ON HOW TO PASS THE SKILLS TESTS</b></p> <p><b>REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR FUTURE TRAINING PLACES</b></p> <p><b>PLACES AVAILABLE IN MANY SUBJECT AREAS FOR A SEPTEMBER 2017 START</b></p>	  <p><b>ARE YOU A YOUNG CARER?</b></p> <p>Young Carers are children who help look after a member of their family who has a long-term illness, disability, mental health issues, or is misusing drugs and/or alcohol.</p> <p>East Sussex Young Carers is here to support Young Carers aged 5-18 with: Information, Advice &amp; Signposting, 1:1 Support, Respite Activities, Chill Clubs to socialise with other Young Carers.</p> <p><b>0300 111 1110</b> <a href="mailto:info@eastsussexyoungcarers.org.uk">info@eastsussexyoungcarers.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.eastsussexyoungcarers.org.uk">www.eastsussexyoungcarers.org.uk</a></p> <p> ESussexYCarers  EastSussexYoungCarers</p> <p>The Young Carer Champion from your School is:</p> <p> </p> <p><small>East Sussex Young Carers is a service of Imago Registered Charity No: 1106368 Registered Company No: 5354462</small></p>
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## English Department News

### KS4

Year 11 - Please continue to consult the list of **after school sessions** provided by the department and make use of them. There are also extra sessions in place *during school time* as you finish exams in other subjects. Please ensure that you **ask for help** if you are unsure how to structure your revision time or have any exam-related questions. Make sure you **come to lessons prepared** with texts, revision guides, and any other resources with which you have been provided. **Useful websites** are available in the Year 11 revision folder along with padlets and keyword lists and we **strongly recommend** that you log onto **GCSE POD** as it is packed full of tips and information.

**Year 10**, you have now completed your **mock exams** in language and literature. Your teachers have put a lot of effort into marking them so please **read their feedback carefully and act upon it**. Next term, we will be shifting our focus onto our **next texts and more elements of the exams**. Keep your texts studied so far ticking over using **memrise** for key quotes revision and **practising keywords**.

**Both years** - keep learning those **keywords** (all available on padlets and the Google Drive). I recommend keeping an eye on TV schedules and cinema listings for versions of the texts you are studying to help you with plot, characters and themes. It is also worth checking the De La Warr Pavilion, The Odeon and Cineworld as they regularly run discounted National Theatre screenings of plays which are invaluable to study and also thoroughly *enjoyable* to watch. DVDs can also be borrowed from the school library.

**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 Mrs Midghall in B15 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.



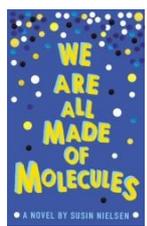
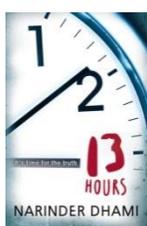
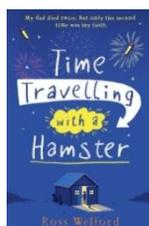
### **Battle Rotary Young Writers Competition**

Kaira Rubit (Year 9) and Chloe Wilkinson (Year 10) were finalists in the Battle Rotary Young Writers competition and were invited to read their work aloud on the evening of Friday, 17th March at Battle Memorial Hall. This year's competition was on the theme of 'Reflection'. Despite not winning on the evening, both pupils gave exceptional performances of their work and certificates and trophies were awarded as prizes for their contributions.

Creative writing club runs every Monday lunchtime in A8 for any other budding writers. Just turn up!



## **Library News**



**1066 Schools Book Award** is now complete, and certificates have been issued to our readers who read so much and wrote such lovely reviews, which are now on display in the Library.

Congratulations go to Rita Smirnova, 80, for being the first to complete all the reading and the 4 reviews – Well Done! This is the second year Rita has achieved this – what a fantastic reader! A select group travelled by minibus with Dr Durkin to Bexhill



Academy, where they were welcomed to the new Library by Mrs Stanley. Book and quiz activities followed, prizes were given, and refreshments enjoyed with pupils and librarians from other local schools all celebrating the Award. This year for the first time ever there was a joint winner: Susin Nielsen with 'We are Made of Molecules', and Narinder Dhami with



'Thirteen Hours'! Both are excellent reads. Well done to all!



**Film Club News** With apologies for the break in service, our Film Club will resume with showings of 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them' and, for a change of pace, the original 'A Boy Named Charlie Brown'.



Film Clubbers will be allowed to vote for the order in which these will be shown. First showing will be Monday, 15th and Tuesday, 16th May, second showing will be Monday, 5th and Tuesday, 6th June.

### **The CILIP Carnegie Book Award**

The CILIP Carnegie Book Award has been celebrating the best of new children's and teen fiction for 80 years this year. Past winners have included:

- 1930's 'Pigeon Post' by Arthur Ransom
- 1940's 'The Little White Horse' by Elizabeth Gouge
- 1950's 'The Last Battle' by CS Lewis
- 1960's 'The Owl Service' by Alan Garner
- 1970's 'Watership Down' by Douglas Adams
- 1980's 'Goggle-Eyes' by Anne Fine
- 1990's 'Skellig' by David Almond
- 2000's 'Millions' by Frank Cottrell Boyce
- 2010's 'The Bunker Diaries' by Kevin Brooks

All are excellent reads and many have been made into TV series or films. As usual, we have invested in the long list, but please note, one of the Shortlist titles, 'Beck', comes with the advisory note of 16+, making it unsuitable for younger pupils. Any pupil interested in joining the Carnegie shadowing to read from either the long or short listed titles should collect a letter from the library and return it signed by a parent or carer.

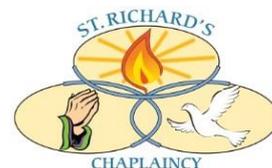
**Exam Equipment** Please note, Year 11, you will need pens, pencils, rubbers, highlighters, maths equipment and clear pencil cases for your exams. These are available to purchase at cost price from the Shop-in-a-Box in the Library. Please don't leave your purchases until the last minute as I cannot guarantee to have what you need on the day.

**URGENT!!!** Your College Library is collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers – we have enough for a Trangia 25-1 stove and burner for our Duke of Edinburgh expedition pupils – ideally, we need to collect about another 1000 to enable us to get TWO free stoves. Sainsbury's have now stopped issuing the vouchers, so I am not asking you to buy more from them, just to hand in any vouchers you have, and enable some cold and weary children to get a hot meal before tucking up to sleep in the great outdoors. Many thanks to those of you who have already sent vouchers in.

**Quote of the Month** 'If, by reading... we are enabled to step, for one moment, into another person's shoes, to get right under their skin, then that is already a great achievement.' Archbishop Desmond Tutu  
Ms Tocknell, Librarian



## Chaplaincy News



We are fast approaching the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday, 15th June. Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Church, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, empowering them in their mission and gathering them together as a Church. In term 6 we will be gathering as a Church community on a number of occasions. We remember very specially in prayer all the pupils who are preparing for Confirmation with Bishop Richard in the coming weeks; may the Holy Spirit guide them at this particular moment in their journey of faith. We also pray for all those preparing to sit their exams: may they be inspired and strengthened to give of their best. Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Amen.



**Easter Services:** For this year's annual Easter service we focused on the following - the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, he laid down his life for us, his friends, but what does he ask in return? We reflected on the ways in which we can prepare for the resurrection of Jesus and how we could challenge ourselves to think beyond Easter and how we can make a difference to the world by sharing God's love with everyone we meet. We

looked at the idea of 'Paying it Forward' and sharing kindness without expecting reward. In the weeks running up to the service the RE department asked pupils to think of pledges they could make to take beyond Easter into their everyday life. A selection of these were put on display in the service. My thanks to the RE team for giving pupils time to do this in their lessons. The Music, Drama and Dance departments once again put in a huge amount of work to create a service that was both thought provoking and reflective. My thanks to Mrs



Dunster, Mrs Knight, Mr Roadnight, Mrs Byrne and Mrs Bligh for their contributions. Well done to the Drama group, Dance Company and our many talented musicians and singers who gave us all something to take away and think about during the Easter celebrations in our Parishes.



**Friday Morning Mass for staff and pupils:** Each Friday, at 8.10am, Mass is celebrated in A3. Both pupils and staff are most welcome to attend. If you know someone you would like to be remembered at Mass, for whatever reason, then do just let me know and I will include them in the intentions of the Mass.

**Form and Year Services:** This term we have had a number of Form Services take place and my thanks to the tutors and pupils for the hard work they put into these. We also launched a new preparation lesson for tutors to use when planning their Form Service. This was put together by myself and Miss Wood and will hopefully mean every pupil has more of an input into their Form Service and they can have a service that is reflective and personal. My thanks to Miss Wood for her input. Next week, we have a Year 8 Service and in term 6 we have Year 9, 8 and 7 liturgies. I will be liaising with each year group and the Performing Arts department to plan these.

**Liturgy Reps:** As we reach the ever approaching GCSEs our Year 11 Liturgy Reps now take a backseat in order to concentrate on their exam preparation. I take this opportunity to thank them for their work with Chaplaincy. Some of them have been reps since Year 7 and have been vital to the work of the Chaplaincy team. I wish them all well in their exams and their future plans.

**Good Shepherd Celebration:** In term 6 we will be attending the Good Shepherd Celebration in Worth Abbey with schools from across the Diocese. I look forward to reporting back on the event in our next newsletter.

**Rome Trip 2018:** I have now launched the Rome trip for next academic year with current Year 9 and 10. I am extending the application deadline until the end of term 5, so if you have not got a letter please see me to get one. Parents can see the letter and the Powerpoint I showed the pupils on the school website under the Parents/Trip Information tab. This is a fantastic opportunity to see the centre of the Catholic church and the wonderful historic city of Rome, so I encourage pupils to think about applying to go.



**CAFOD/Foodbank:** On Wednesday, 29th March despite the drizzling rain, about 50 pupils with staff set off on our annual CAFOD sponsored walk and Foodbank appeal. Every Lent, we endeavour to make it part of our Lenten preparations to help those less fortunate than us. Year 7 pupil, Maisie Nevey said, "I did the walk because I thought it would be a good way to give back during Lent to those who are not as lucky as me." Every year we support the lifesaving work

of CAFOD and their Lenten Appeal. This year CAFOD is supporting small fish farmers, who can in turn then educate and help others in their community to become self-sufficient.



This year we also decided to support CAFOD's East Africa Appeal to provide emergency support to those suffering as a result of famine in the region. Each appeal received £715.31 which will make a significant difference to a lot of people. Another pupil, Niall Scott-Mcwall said, "This was really hard but made me realise what people in Africa have to suffer."

However, to ensure we support both home and abroad we also had a food collection for the Bexhill Foodbank. Pupils from across the school brought in an item of food along with their donation for Mufti Day. Our intrepid walkers then carried the food on our walk and delivered it to the Foodbank at St Mary Magdalene's Church Hall. In this way they endured some hardship to help them understand the hardship faced by many across the world and at home. Our local Foodbank in Bexhill is always in need of donations



as they serve so many, and many in our school know of someone who has benefited from their support. We outdid ourselves this year by raising 100kg more than last year. Ronaldinho Chikoto in Year 7 said, "The walk was very tiring especially carrying the bags but it is nothing like the hardship those who need the food or those in Africa have to face famine so I'm glad I did it." Thank you to all the staff who helped and to all who sponsored our pupils.

God bless,

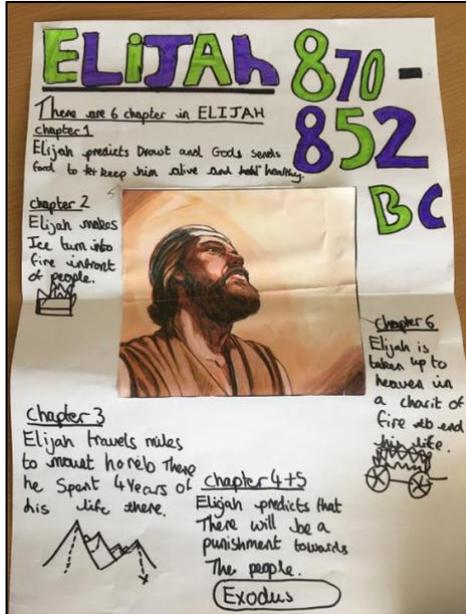
*Jo Doyle*

Miss Jo Doyle - Lay Chaplain ([missdoylej@strichardsc.com](mailto:missdoylej@strichardsc.com)) Tel: 01424 731070 Ext. 126

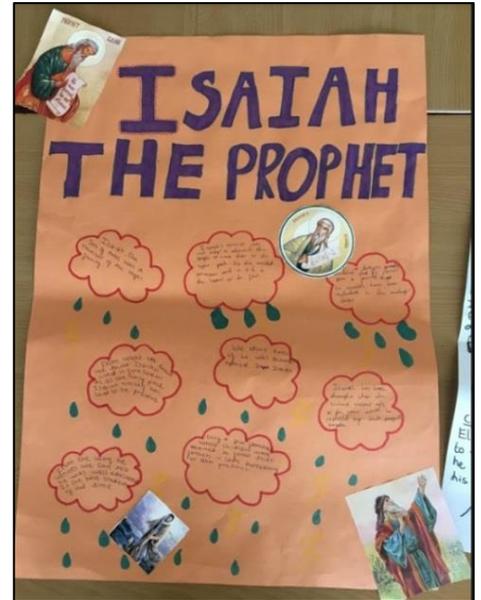
## RE DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Year 7** are currently learning about CAFOD as part of their "Faith into Action" topic. During this term all pupils will have a visit from Anne Barry, a CAFOD representative, to talk through CAFOD's work. In addition, pupils have partaken in organising and presenting presentations on some of the different areas CAFOD have worked.

**Year 8** are currently learning about different Old Testament prophets. They have spent time in class preparing a presentation about their given prophet to present to the class in the "Battle of the Prophets." Pupils have to decide who was the best Old Testament prophet.



**Year 9** are currently learning about their final Mark's Gospel topic, Death and Resurrection. This unit covers the last week of Jesus' life and looks at what Christians learn from these actions.



**Year 10** are continuing in their GCSE course. They are currently learning about the different sources of wisdom and authority in Catholic Christianity. This involves learning about the Bible, the Magisterium, the Second Vatican Council, Mary as a model of faith and ethical decision making.

**Year 11** have completed their GCSE studies for RE and have sat both their exams. The AS group are still revising for their last RE exam. They have all worked extremely hard and we are sure their hard work will pay off when they receive their results in August. As their RE exams are complete, when they have a timetabled RE lesson pupils will be able to revise for their other exams or they may have revision lessons with other subject teachers.

As you may be aware for a few years now there has been an accelerated group in RE who sit their whole GCSE at the end of Year 10 and then in Year 11 complete their AS in RE. Due to the current GCSE reforms and new RE specifications, we will not be able to have an accelerated group for the academic year 2017-2018. However, there will be opportunities throughout the year for the more able pupils to stretch their knowledge and understanding of RE.



On Thursday, 22nd June we will have a fantastic speaker and holocaust survivor, Dorit Wolfe, delivering a key note speech to begin our RE Summer Conference. The theme of the day is "The Problem of Evil leads to the conclusion that God is not good." Schools across the county and Diocese have been invited. There will be a small group of Year 10 pupils involved in the day. They will partake in different workshops which will lead to a debate at the end of the day.

*Mrs Mead, Acting Subject Leader – RE*

## StAR Club

St Richard's Amateur Radio Club have met on Thursdays after school and have been using Morse Code to play live 'battleship' type games. Despite sending and receiving messages successfully in Morse Code, word speed is still hovering around 3 or 4 words per minute but with a confirmed stand at the annual STEMfest in late June, there's still plenty of time to practice! Radio transmitter and receiver construction is ongoing with only a brief moment of levity provided by the construction of a fruity banana piano with plans for a veggie version soon! 7U's Ivan Doolan Tanner reports that, *'This club is amazing and we have learnt loads – such as frequency x wavelength = speed of light for radio waves!'* Jack Gunson (7U) continued, *'We are going to solder our own radio by ourselves – that's why I love Star Club'* with Joseph Roser (7H) adding, *'You can get your licensed radio and talk to other people in other countries – great for MFL!'*



## Space Camp 2017, The UK Midlands



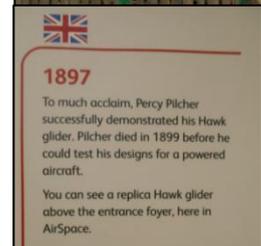
Pupils returned to Space Camp in the UK Midlands at Easter, for a residential stay at Stanford Hall. Arriving mid-afternoon we unpacked and explored the buildings and grounds before heading to the Midland's Roller Arena for some exercise and supper. There was a fair amount of falling over from Finlay (see below) but a lot of progress and far fewer bruises in others. It was the perfect way to spend the evening getting to know the other pupils and making friends. Back at the Hall, pupils played on the football table, read books and made origami creatures with an early night in preparation for the early start in the morning. Our whole day at the National Space Centre in Leicester was full of activity. Dr Ali guided us through some hands on experiments to do with space and how big it is. Skye and Shanice really enjoyed making the comets and everyone enjoyed making and launching rockets and then constructing telescopes.



That afternoon we had a guided tour of the great house and heard all about the haunted sections of the stables (the boys' Room 2!) and how the first powered flight by a human in the UK took place about half a mile away and that the unfortunate pilot, Percy Pilcher, died at Stanford Hall whilst recovering from a crash near the local church in 1899. This was 4 years before the famed Wright brothers claimed the title of first powered flight at Kittyhawk in the United States. The house and its 200 acre grounds also played a key role in the English Civil War and 'Bloody Mary' is alleged to have stayed in the house during her lifetime too... there is a particularly unsettling painting of her (her eyes really do stare into your soul!) Supper and then a stroll through the grounds playing wild games and finding the really massive treehouse rounded the day off.



The following day we headed back to Bexhill via the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Pupils spent time touring the dazzling array of aircraft on display, earning Morse Code certificates and joined a simulated Battle of Britain spitfire dogfight over the channel. In the 'Physics of Flight' interactive galleries there was an audio-visual trip seeing developments through the years featuring our dear friend Percy Pilcher!



7U's Finlay Holter had a very busy time of it all reporting, *'I enjoyed super Space Camp. My favourite thing was the space centre; it was amazing and I would love to do it all again. I loved the bedrooms. The house was interesting and spooky. I really enjoyed the food. I had way too many bits of food. Anya's team won the rocket launch as it went the furthest (over 70 metres!) The skating was painful but so*

*much fun! The tree house was bigger than I expected and playing British Bulldog in between the trees was brilliant as we messed around in the grounds. I loved the football table and I won a tournament.'*

## Year 8 Astro Taster Day – University of Sussex Maths & Physics Outreach

Year 8 pupils were introduced to the delights of making a spectroscope for solar observing during an introduction to astronomy series of lessons. University of Sussex undergraduate students were also delighted to afford pupils from across the year groups, opportunities to revise for forthcoming exams. Year 9 GCSE Astronomers had an 'Ask an Astronomer' session; Year 11 pupils revised key parts of their forthcoming Physics GCSEs with radiation workshops and, as always, everyone enjoyed a trip around the stars with the inflatable planetarium presentation 'We Are Aliens' narrated by everyone's favourite time lord, David Tennant.



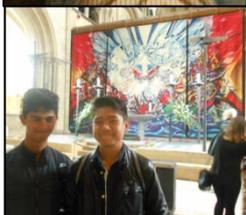
## South Downs Planetarium and Chichester Cathedral

Year 9 Astronomers spent a chilly Saturday in Chichester with a joint trip from the Science and RE departments. Time spent in the 900 year old cathedral building allowed for some thoughtful reflection on the role of religion in conflict across the globe both in the 'here and now' and historically. Pupils had the opportunity to light candles of remembrance at the St Richard's altar and paused to reflect on the nature of peace, at the Amnesty International corner and at the artwork installations seeking to unite faith and art.

A lunch break and stroll around the town centre led to our trip to the South Downs Planetarium in the Sir Patrick Moore building, as we settled down for some audio-visual revision for the forthcoming GCSE Astronomy. Our host, Dr John Mason, set the scene as we took a simulated midnight stroll through the night skies of the south coast.

Trinity was able to meet another Tim Peake and pupils were also able to visually roam across a Moon model of great historical significance – it is one of only 4 such models which were commissioned by NASA to depict what was known of the lunar surface as the Apollo programme commenced in the early 60s. We were fortunate to see this model as it is not on public display having been bequeathed to the planetarium by Sir Patrick Moore himself from his private collection. Patrick worked on Moon mapping in his early twenties, pre-Apollo days for the newly formed NASA. The model seemed a little crude to a modern digitally tuned eye – especially considering that it once represented everything that was known, topographically, about our nearest cosmic neighbour and only natural satellite of the Earth!

This served as a useful reminder about how far the 'Space Race' propelled our STEM understanding.



## Race for the Line: Bloodhound Rocket Car Challenge

On a sunny afternoon in March, keen ICT pupils raced their rocket cars against other invited schools in the 'Race for the Line' bloodhound rocket car challenge. It was very exciting to see the cars racing reaching speeds of up to 35mph along a very short stretch of the Year 8 playground. When the films and times were all analysed we had 3 teams from St Richard's who progressed to the regional heats in April in Crawley. The Army had come down to supervise the explosives and were happy to talk to pupils about potential careers in the army.

When we turned up at regionals there was a big emphasis on careers as well as the competition itself. Each team was given new resource packages and had to design and whittle away their new improved version of their race car and then race against the line for the fastest time. The three St Richard's teams who competed at the regional finals



included; BAM, DatBayGary and Sanispeed. All pupils will receive a CREST Discovery Award for their sterling efforts in representing the college.



## RSC Chemistry at Work Day, University of Brighton, Falmer

A coach load of Year 8 pupils travelled to the University of Brighton's Falmer campus for a series of lectures and interactive workshops from leading researchers and professional chemists in an RSC event entitled 'Chemistry at Work.' Firstly, we heard from Dr Wes Heaton, Technical Development Director at GlaxoSmithKline and then from Dr Lisa Rooney, a medicinal chemist. Both gave talks on aspects of their work and their route into their current jobs and then after lunch there were 6 workshops that the pupils explored in rotation. The workshops included chatting with undergraduate chemists, materials science, driving a robot ball through a maze, the testing procedures for our drinking water and making individual lava lamps to take away. Hiroshi Gioia, Amy Rudden and Alvin Manoj all thought that talking to undergraduate 'Ali' was the best bit, whereas Alice Funnell enjoyed 'talking to the lady chemist'. A good time was had by all and everyone came home with prizes!



## STEAM Space Stories: The Space Race

St Richard's Science and History departments have joined forces to launch the 'Space Stories: The Space Race' project. Having secured an SSAT Innovation grant to support the purchase of audio-visual recording equipment, Year 8 and 9 pupils with a keen interest in both subjects, joined our invited community elders from both a 'parent' generation and a 'grandparent' generation to experience some old and new teaching and learning and to answer some questions on the nature of the 'Space Race.'

Our pupil team worked with Kevin Grolle, our storyteller, before the practical lessons. Kevin had shared some practical skills in how to ask the right questions and prepare properly to tell the story of the Space Race. At the end of the project in the summer term our 'Science Storytellers' will be relating their learning to an invited audience of primary pupils and then reporting their findings in the SSAT magazine.

Mr Clark gave an excellent theory lesson on Newton's Laws of Motion 'old-style,' which provided much to discuss over a delicious lunch, before Mr Lahache delivered a 'new-style' lesson on the same topic. Our pupil research team, led by Alicia Smith, Hannah Chan and David Munro, had constructed a



'booth' in which to interview our elder guests as they answered pupil questions and reflected on their school days and how education has changed since the 1960s. We look forward to following the project's progress.



## Forthcoming Trips

**Ethical Eden (residential 30th May – 2nd June 2017) – two places still available!**

**STEMFest 2017: Big Bang South East Wednesday, 28th June**

**\*\*\*\* See Dr Durkin in Lab 4 for more information and trip letters \*\*\*\***

## CLASS+

Collaboratively working with families to build confidence and to enable them to take the next step

### Staying Safe Online

A session to support parents to understand the particular challenges for a young person with ASD in staying safe in an online environment'

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June  
9.30-11am

at  
Sidley Children's Centre  
Sidley Community Centre

121 Ninfield Road, Sidley, Bexhill-on-Sea, TN39 5BD

Please contact CLASS if you wish to attend  
by 22nd June 2017

[CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk)

01273 336887

"If they can't learn the way we teach, we teach the way they learn"

Source: O.Ivar Lovaas

Part of Communication, Learning and Autism Support Service

H Floor, South Block, County Hall, Lewes, East Sussex. BN17 1UE Tel: 01273 336887

Email: [CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk)

Stuart Gallimore  
Director of  
Children's Services



## CLASS+

Collaboratively working with families to build confidence and to enable them to take the next step

### KS3/4 ASD Information Session

Are you a parent of a young person in KS3/KS4 with ASD/Social Communication Difficulties? Join us for an informal information sharing session and gain advice and understanding of the challenges in raising an older child with ASD.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
7.00 - 8.30pm

At Tesco Extra Hastings, Community Room,  
Church Wood Drive, St Leonards on Sea

Please contact CLASS if you wish  
to attend by 16<sup>th</sup> June

[CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk)  
01273 336887

"The most interesting people you'll find are ones that don't fit into your average cardboard box. They'll make what they need, they'll make their own boxes,"  
Source: Dr. Temple Grandin

Part of Communication, Learning and Autism Support Service

H Floor, South Block, County Hall, Lewes, East Sussex. BN17 1UE Tel: 01273 336887

Email: [CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk)

Stuart Gallimore  
Director of  
Children's Services



## CLASS+

Collaboratively working with families to build confidence and to enable them to take the next step

### Parent/Carer Coffee and Chat

CLASS+ invites **parents and carers** of children/young people with ASD/Social Communication difficulties to join us for coffee, chat, advice - the chance to forge new support networks and friendships

No need to book - just come along.

Punnett's Town County Primary  
Heathfield  
08/06/2017  
9.00 - 10.30am

St Thomas a Beckett  
Eastbourne  
13/06/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Meridian Community Primary  
Peacehaven  
14/06/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Churchwood Primary Academy  
St Leonards-on-Sea  
15/06/17  
9.00am-10.30am

Frant CofE Primary  
Tunbridge Wells  
20/06/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Rye Children's Centre  
Rye  
21/6/17  
9.00-10.30am



Focus

'Holidays and  
Transition'

We will spend part  
of the session  
exploring  
'transition' but  
parents/carers will  
also have the  
opportunity to talk  
to each other and  
members of the  
CLASS+ Team

King Offa Primary Academy  
Bexhill  
27/06/17  
9.00-10.30am

Tollgate Junior School  
Eastbourne  
28/06/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Holy Cross CofE School  
Uckfield  
03/07/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

ARK Little Ridge Primary  
St Leonards-on-Sea  
06/07/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Grovelands Primary  
Hailsham  
11/07/17  
9.00 - 10.30am

Part of Communication, Learning and Autism Support Service

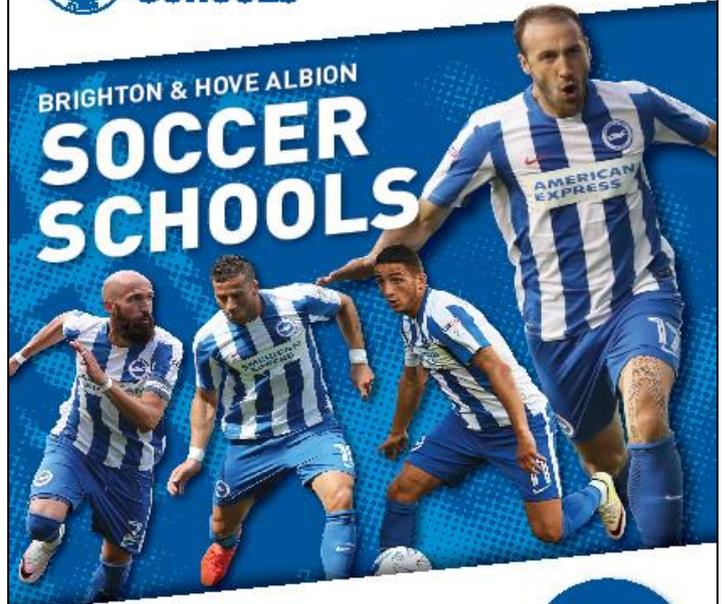
H Floor, South Block, County Hall, Lewes, East Sussex. BN17 1UE Tel: 01273 336887

Email: [CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:CLASS@eastsussex.gov.uk)

Stuart Gallimore  
Director of  
Children's Services



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## PE Department News

### DANCE

**Easter Service:** The Dance Company participated in the Easter Service on the last day of term 4. The messages were, 'How we can prepare for the resurrection of Jesus' and 'thinking beyond Easter' and 'How can we make a difference to the world by sharing God's love with everyone we meet.' The Junior Team danced beautifully to 'Our God Reigns' ending with a symbolic cross linked together. 'Who am I,' a powerful and moving piece danced by the senior team, explored the idea of making a difference, linking to our Advent Service's message of hope. A selection of the junior team provided a wonderful visual interpretation of the crucifixion really setting the atmosphere for the service.



**Parish Mass:** Junior members of the Dance Company attended the Parish Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea on Sunday, 14th May. Edward Pepper, Alicia Askew-Collomb, Louise Kavanagh and Karina Maziarczuk danced to the Psalm, 'Turn to Me.'



**Trinity Laban Workshop:** The Dance Company welcomed Trinity Laban's Centre for Advanced Dance training who held a workshop on Wednesday, 24th February. This scheme offers young people, who have exceptional talent and potential in dance, the opportunity to take part in a training session which can lead to selection to attend Laban's open day and an audition. It is a national programme funded by the Department of Education. Twenty-six pupils, members of St Richard's Dance Company, took part in the workshop and they have now been invited to attend a further open day and audition for Laban's Saturday school. Noah Burrows, 8H, auditioned on Sunday, 7th May. Noah was successful in the first audition and has a second audition for the Centre for Advanced Training at Trinity Laban, which will take place on Sunday, 21st May. Good luck, Noah!



### **Bexhill College**

#### **Performance:**

The Dance Company were delighted to be invited to perform alongside the Bexhill College Performing Arts A level and BTEC students' performance evening on Wednesday 10th May. The junior team performed, 'Fire Flame' and the senior team performed their piece, 'Suffrage' at the Izzard Theatre.



This also gave the team the chance to watch former pupils perform. The evening was a great success with both teams performing to a high standard. Well done to all who took part.

## Dance Company Rehearsals and Clubs

Monday	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Company
Tuesday	3.15-5.00pm	Show Rehearsal
Wednesday	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Company
Thursday	3.15-5.00pm	Show Rehearsal (main cast only)
Friday	3.15-4.15pm	Boys' Dance Company

*Mrs Knight, Dance Teacher*

### PE NEWS

#### **Hastings Area Basketball League**

Year 7 v Hastings Academy. Won 45 - 0.

Year 11 v Hastings Academy. Won 32 - 18.

#### **Hastings Area School Rugby Tournament**

##### **Year 7 - Winners**

v Ark William Parker. Won 20 - 5.

v St Leonards. Won 30 - 5.

v Bexhill Academy. Won 25 - 5.

v Claverham. Won 30 - 5.

##### **Year 11 - Runners Up**

v Robertsbridge. Won 20 - 0.

v Bexhill Academy. Lost 0 - 5.

v Claverham. Won 20 - 0.

v St Leonards. Won 25 - 0.

##### **Year 10 - 3rd Place**

v Claverham. Won 10 - 5.

v Hastings Academy. Won 10 - 5.

v Rye. Won 15 - 5.

v Ark William Parker. Lost 5 - 15.

#### **SE Sussex Schools Football Cup Semi-Final**

Year 9B v Ratton A. Won 4 - 1.

Year 9 v Lewes Priory. Drew 2 - 2. Won on penalties 3 - 0.

Year 8 v Ratton. Won 4 - 1.

Year 7 v Willingdon. Won 3 - 2.

Year 10 v Causeway. Lost 2 - 10.

Year 11 v Hailsham. Lost 0 - 1. Well done to the Year 11 team who lost their semi-final in the last minute. They played an excellent match.

#### **SE Sussex Schools Football Cup Final**

Year 7 v Claverham. Lost 0 - 2.

Year 8 v Ark William Parker. Lost 0 - 5.

Year 9B team v Robertsbridge A team. Won 2 - 1.

Year 9A v Causeway. Lost 0 - 1.

#### **Hastings Area Extreme Golf Competition**

Winners - Well done to George Murphy, Fergal Crichton-Coote, Sebastian Rann, Louis Byrne, Bradley Ayres and Callum Ralph. They now progress to the Sussex Youth Schools games in June.

#### **Hastings Area Super 6s Athletics**

Well done to the team who collected the bronze medal in a very close competition held at St Leonards. The team were: Mitchell Harrod, Eli Myers, Daniel Doswell, Joshua Ansell, William Ewer, Jake Payne, India McCann, Beatrice White, Talia Cahill and Florence Assetto.



**Year 7 Boys Football Team**



**Year 9B Boys Football Team**



**Year 9A Boys Football Team**

## Girls Football Area Champions Year 10 & 11 and Year 8 & 9 Team

Year 10&11 won the tournament in great style without conceding a goal, beating Helenswood 4-0, St Leonards Academy 2-0 and Bexhill Academy 3-0. A great way for the Year 11s to finish their last football match for the college and a proud moment for Head Girl and Captain Serena Coyle to lift the trophy! Team: Serena Coyle, Fleur Durrant, Gabriele Mercado, Chloe Wheeler, Lillie McSweeney, Poppy Derhun, Ma Shaina Mallorca and Olivia White.



The Year 8&9 team also played extremely well, drawing 2-2 with Helenswood, beating Hastings Academy 2-0 and beating Bexhill Academy 3-0. In the final against Rye College, the score was 1-1 at full time, which took us to the excitement of a penalty shoot-out! St Richard's won a very close and tense shoot-out 3-2. Those taking a penalty demonstrated nerves of steel and there were vital saves from our Goalkeeper and Captain

Amber Pisani-Cleland. Team: Maddie Baszczak, Lucy Boreham, Jade Coleman, Lexie Coleman, Jasmine Moulding, Amber Pisani-Cleland and Charlotte Power.

A super achievement from both teams to be crowned as Champions of the Area!

## Years 7-10 Girls Area Basketball Competition

This was a fantastic competition held at Summerfields Leisure Centre on 30th March. The girls played with determination, skill and sportsmanship and were an absolute credit to our College. Thank you to Phoebe King and Sasha Fahy in Year 9 who were Team Coaches for Year 7&8, having committed themselves to helping out at the Year 7&8 Basketball Club after school every week for 10 weeks. The Year 7 team finished 2nd, Year 8 finished 7th, Year 9 finished 3rd and Year 10 finished 3rd. Well played to you all!



Year 7: India McCann, Amelie Wyer & Beatrice White

Year 8: Althea Balignot, Olivia De Freitas-Rodriguez, Alice Funnell & Isabella McMillan

Year 9: Pamela Busuego, Trinity Funnell, Janel Maneclang & Hollie Young

Year 10: Georgina Coulter, Ma Shaina Mallorca & Mikaela Rodriguez

### P.E. Department Clubs/Practices (May - July 2017)

	Boys	Girls
<b>Monday</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>		Year 7 & 8 Rounders
<b>Wednesday</b>	Athletics	Athletics
<b>Thursday</b>	Lower School Fitness	Lower School Fitness Year 7 & 8 Rounders
<b>Friday</b>	Year 7 & 8 Cricket	Year 7 & 8 Cricket

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

**Term 5 and 6**

**Last Day of Term Five**

End of Term Holidays

**First Day of Term Six**

Year 9 Reports to Parents/Carers

Parental Focus Group meeting (am)

Parental Focus Group meeting (pm)

St Richard's Day Masses (with Bishop Richard)

**Summer Fayre**

New Intake Evening

Year 11 Leavers' Prom

**Inset Day (school closed for pupils)**

Year 10 Work Experience Week

New Intake Days

Block Day

Year 10 Reports to Parents/Carers

Confirmation Mass (Bexhill)

Confirmation Mass (St Leonards)

Sports Day

Summer Production – Our House

Newsletter No. 7 published

Confirmation Mass (Our Lady of Ransom)

**Last Day of Term Six for pupils**

**Last Day of Term Six for staff**

**Friday, 26th May**

Saturday, 27th May to Sunday, 4th June

**Monday, 5th June**

Friday, 9th June

Wednesday, 14th June (9.15am)

Thursday, 15th June (6.15pm)

Friday, 16th June

**Saturday, 17th June (11.00am-2.00pm)**

Wednesday, 21st June

Thursday, 22nd June

**Monday, 26th June**

Week commencing Monday, 26th June

Wednesday, 28th to Friday, 30th June

Tuesday, 4th July

Wednesday, 5th July

Saturday, 8th July (11.30am)

Saturday, 8th July (3.00pm)

Wednesday, 12th July

Wednesday, 12th to Friday, 14th July (7.00pm)

Friday, 14th July

Saturday, 15th July

**Thursday, 20th July**

**Friday, 21st July**

***Newsletter Acknowledgement***

Don't forget to sign the newsletter acknowledgement no. 6 located in your son/daughter's journal.

***IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING TRAIN TRAVEL***

I am writing to ask that all parents/carers of pupils who catch the train to school have another conversation with them about safe and responsible travel.

I have had reports of pupils standing up when seats have been available; surging on and off trains, and, at times, being far too loud, which we would all agree is unfair on other pupils and other travellers.

In writing this, I am, of course, aware that many of our pupils continue to behave impeccably. However, a reminder to everyone can only serve to ensure the safety and comfort of our pupils and the members of the public who travel at the same time as them. Those who decide not to behave safely on the trains will receive sanctions in school which could result in the loss of their right to travel in this manner.

*Mrs Bligh – Vice Principal*

**NEWSLETTER**

Our newsletter is published online in the penultimate week of each term. **All pupils in a family need to have a signature from a parent/carers to indicate that the newsletter has been noted and hopefully read.** 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. **If you would prefer to continue to receive a paper copy then please email your details to Mrs Klein ([mrskleink@strichardsc.com](mailto:mrskleink@strichardsc.com)) who will ensure this occurs. Any concerns about the new arrangements should also be emailed to her.**