



Science

St. Richard's Catholic College

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



Ashdown Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN40 1SE. Tel: 01424 731070
Email: admin@strichardscc.com Web address: www.strichardscc.com

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

Newsletter No. 5 – March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Term four has been extremely busy for all, particularly our Year 11 who have completed EBacc mocks and are now preparing for their summer exams which begin on Monday, 13th May.

All year groups have been working hard inside and outside the classroom and it has been a pleasure to witness pupil response to activities such as Science Week, the D of E expedition, Rotary Public Speaking competition, 'Draw Me In' art event, the Magistrates Court competition, Maths Challenge, the Careers Fayre, theatre visits, STEM activities and World Book Day.

Highlights in terms of enrichment this term include: the Music Showcase which was outstanding; the Great Big Dance Off competition with three dance groups being placed 4th in the South East; the Science Week finale day with visitors from Primary Schools who were supported in completing investigations by Year 8 pupils, as well as treated to a Dr Who whodunit written by Mr Tadros, and the range of sporting competitions taking place in the new sports hall. As always, I would like to reiterate the importance of all pupils developing their talents and passions beyond the classroom and thank staff for organising a variety of enrichment activities as well as booster/revision classes for Year 11.

I was very pleased this week to receive two certificates from the SSAT on behalf of the whole school community for providing exceptional education in the areas of 'Climate for Learning' and 'Engaging with Stakeholders.' Senior Leaders from Heathfield Community College and a moderator from Leading Edge visited the school to look at all evidence including carrying out learning walks. They declared that we were 'transforming' in the two areas being assessed. This recognition can be enjoyed by the whole school community and, in particular, staff who work so hard to provide your son/daughter with an outstanding education.

Can I thank those parents/carers who have attended Parental Focus Groups this term; I hope you found them useful. Can I also thank those parents/carers who have been attending the Action your Potential workshops on Tuesday evenings. These have been not only informative but entertaining. If you have yet to experience a workshop then visit the website and make a note in your diary for the next one which occurs after Easter on Tuesday, 30th April, 6.30-8.00pm. They provide not only great tips for supporting your child but good advice for yourself in creating a stronger sense of well-being.

Can I also take this opportunity to promote the PTFA Dance on Saturday, 6th April (details inside the newsletter) which includes a live band and buffet and takes place in Manor Barn, Bexhill, TN40 2JA. All profits will buy further equipment for the sports hall or sports field, which is badly in need of new goalposts!

As we approach the end of term we say farewell and thank you to our Business Manager, Miss Pain, who is moving to a post closer to her home. Miss Pain has been with us for 5½ years running a very efficient service, ensuring a healthy budget balance and overseeing health and safety as well as building projects, including the building of the new sports hall. Her calm, caring approach, particularly with pupils, has been valued. We are all very grateful to her and wish her well in her new position. A new Business Manager has not yet been appointed but we do have two highly experienced Finance Officers, notably Miss Field and Mrs Rye.

Teaching and Learning in Term 4 has focused very much on the consolidation of skills and knowledge, as well as exam literacy. I would encourage all parents/carers to engage in conversations with their son/daughter regarding their study habits, revision techniques and their ability to handle the academic vocabulary required in the learning of key words.

This term has covered the start of Lent and pupils have been involved in a range of fundraising activities and kind acts. On Wednesday, the annual Foodbank walk took place and the whole school community supplied items as well as donating £1 to CAFOD to support their work in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi following the devastating cyclone there.

The last day of term is Friday, 5th April at 3.15pm. Services will be held during the day. The start of Term 5 is Tuesday, 23rd April. Hopefully, Year 11 will avail themselves of the revision sessions on offer in school the first week of the holidays with independent revision needing to take place in the second week.

Finally, on behalf of the whole school community I would like to wish you and your family all the blessings of Easter. The staff and I look forward to the return of the pupils revitalised and refreshed, ready for the opportunities and challenges of Term 5.

Yours sincerely
Dea Cronin



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS



As we are now more than half way through the academic year I wanted to say thank you to all the staff at St Richard's. When I look at the school diary it contains not only the events that happen during the normal school day but has information on all the many trips (residential and day) taking place, including their preparation meetings, departmental meetings for each subject, staff meetings, after school training sessions, safeguarding meetings, parents' evenings, pastoral team year meetings, music showcase and production, teaching and learning, research leaders, and spiritual life meetings, to name but a few. In addition, there are all the intervention and revision sessions for those preparing for GCSE. Teachers and support staff go way beyond just involvement in the school day. I hope that you, as parents and carers, are as appreciative as Governors are, for all that staff do to ensure your children are getting the best opportunities for an enriching school experience. Thank you to all staff: teachers, teaching assistants and other support staff.

Alison Horan, Chair of Governors

St Richard's receives SSAT Awards

St Richard's Catholic College has been nationally recognised as transforming educational practice.

We have recently achieved accreditation for transforming practice under SSAT's Framework for Exceptional Education. The Framework for Exceptional Education is a self-review and planning tool incorporating SSAT's 30 years of experience in school improvement. Co-developed with a group of high-performing schools and reviewed by leading academics, the framework supports schools in quality-assuring their work and sharing effective practice.

To achieve accreditation as transforming in practice, St Richard's Catholic College was reviewed by another high-performing school and an independent moderator from SSAT. SSAT's Chief Executive, Sue Williamson comments, "for a school to be accredited for transforming practice is a real credit to their team and the quality of the work that they are doing." Well done to the whole school community.



TRANSFORMING PRACTICE IN
Climate for learning

SSAT Framework for Exceptional Education



TRANSFORMING PRACTICE IN
Engagement with key stakeholders

SSAT Framework for Exceptional Education

YEAR SEVEN NEWS

Assemblies: In Term 4 we have made Mental Health and Well-being a real focus in assemblies. This has worked alongside Andrew Wright's seminars on Neuroscience and how the brain deals with anxiety and stress. Hopefully, during our PSHEe lessons and assemblies, the pupils have gained some strategies to cope with the sometimes difficult situations we all face at times. We have also celebrated success and I was delighted to send home many postcards to pupils who have achieved 175 achievement points and present certificates to pupils who have achieved 150 achievement points. A special mention goes to Ashley Salvador who currently has the most achievement points in Year 7 with 290!



A special mention goes to Ashley Salvador who currently has the most achievement points in Year 7 with 290!

Lost property: I am hopeful that the many prompts about lost property have been successful, but I would still urge parents/carers to label everything that belongs to their child/children.

Reports: Next term staff begin to write Year Seven Summative reports and I am confident they will be very positive. The Parent Consultation evening is on Thursday, 23rd May from 5-8pm.

PSHEe: Term 5 focuses on Careers and British Values.

Mr Bligh, Pastoral Leader Year 7 (mrbliighj@strichardsccl.com)

YEAR EIGHT NEWS

It has been a very busy term which has seen Year 8 pupils receive summative reports and experience a Parents' Consultation Evening. It was excellent to see so many parents and carers attend and the mood was very positive.

Parental Survey: Thank you to the 123 families who completed the survey at the Consultation Evening. I was very pleased to see that 93% of parents/carers were satisfied or more with how their son/daughter is coping with the demands of the curriculum, whilst 92% felt that their child was making steady progress or better. 20% of parents/carers said they have concerns regarding targets - please contact teachers if you have specific worries or questions, and encourage your children to seek the information they need through the wealth of resources available on Google Drive, or by speaking directly to their teachers to help them move forward. I was disappointed to see that four respondents did not feel their child was 'safe and happy' at school. I am aware that pupils are not always happy, and I would urge you to share problems and concerns with us at an early stage so that we can intervene and support swiftly.

Bullying - A reminder to parents/carers to always bring any suspicion of bullying to our attention, as soon as possible, so we can intervene. We have a zero tolerance attitude to bullying but cannot deal with it if we are not made aware of it. The last two terms have seen three assemblies focusing on anti-bullying and showing kindness towards one another, whilst our PSHEe programme has had lessons directly exploring these issues. **Behaviour** - Instances of poor and anti-social behaviour in school and on the way to school are always dealt with. Please report any concerns to the school as soon as possible so we can respond appropriately. **Revision Techniques and Managing Workload** - The PSHEe schedule was amended this year to add lessons on ways in which pupils can "Manage My Life". This focused on home/school balance, coping with anxiety and gave strategies on how to manage homework. In terms of revision strategies; this is something that will be looked at to help support the Year 8 pupils with assessments and will be added to our PSHEe programme. **INSET Days** - All information on INSET days can be found on the back page of the newsletter.

Year 8/9 Talent Show: Thank you to all who took part in the wonderful talent show on Friday, 22nd March. Over £100 was raised for charity, with acts that included singing, dancing, poetry recital and musical instrument renditions. The event was won by Phoebe McAdie who sang 'Lost without You' by Freya Ridings. Well done if you were brave enough to show off your talent, and if you were generous enough to give up your time to come and watch.

Mr Steele, Pastoral Leader Year 8 (mrsteelej@strichardscc.com)



YEAR NINE NEWS

As we approach Easter I would like to thank the vast majority of Year 9 who continue to try their hardest in lessons and contribute to the school community.

Charity: I would like to congratulate Mattie Hawkins and Eliza Brown for raising £110 via a very popular cake sale for the charity Snowflake Shelter for the Homeless in Hastings. I would also like to praise Eleanor Klein, Jeanette Rudas and Aimee Lawrance for raising £122 from their cake sale for CAFOD and the local food bank. These initiatives are all part of Year 9's Faith in Action project. Please do continue to notify me of any other ongoing charity events happening outside of school involving your child.

I would like to thank all of the pupils who took part in the Year 8 and 9 talent show. We raised an impressive £114 for Cancer Research. All of the acts were fantastic. Well done to Ronnie Chikoto for coming in second with his rendition of 'What I Like' by Bruno Mars, supported by the energetic dancing of Niall Scott-McWall, Aimee Mooney, Orla Crowther, Hamish Tallud and Ryan Bone. Phoebe McAdie won the event with a last minute entry. She sang 'Lost without You' by Freya Ridings.

PSHEe: During PSHEe, the pupils have been completing the careers unit, providing an insight into life after St Richard's. This unit culminated in a choice of seven workshops in which the pupils could find out more details about specific career pathways. These included: the military, architecture,

accountancy, life after St Richard's, ICT and nursing. All of the guest speakers provided an array of information and highlighted the importance of developing transferable skills.

Two weeks ago, Luke Drunis, a Health Improvement specialist from the East Sussex School Health Service, came into assembly to talk to the year group. Luke reminded the pupils about the school nurse drop-in service on a Thursday lunchtime in Mrs Bligh's office as well as the anonymous questionnaire that the pupils have been completing during PSHEe this term. The questionnaire will inform us, as a school, what issues regarding health are affecting the year group. This will enable pupils to be supported accordingly. If you would like any further information regarding this please feel free to contact Luke (luke.drunis@nhs.net).

The pupils have just begun their new unit on finance. This unit includes lessons on background economics, personal finance, and understanding investment. The resources are from Nebula learning which provides financial information for teenagers.

Year Service: Next term, Year 9 will be taking part in their next Year service. The theme will be around responsibility as the pupils continue on their journey into the Upper School.

Extra-curricular clubs and the sports hall: I would like to congratulate Elysia Hough, Laynie Mote, Larissa Mayal Napier, Zack Appleyard, Emily-Mai Buchanan, Matilda Redsell, Edward Pepper, Bea Sendino, Matt Cordell, Keia Penman and Will Jones for representing the college in the regional finals of the Great Big Dance Off 2019. St Richard's came in fourth overall, the top school in Sussex and the pupils won a special recognition award. As always I would also like to praise all of the other pupils representing the school through a range of clubs and activities. With the days growing lighter and, fingers crossed, the weather improving, please continue to encourage your child to give a new club a go. We are privileged to have use of the new sports hall. Thank you to all of those who already attend an extra-curricular club.

Achievement points: Although many pupils continue to accumulate an impressive amount of achievement points, there seems to be somewhat of a decline in the amount the pupils are receiving. Please encourage your child to continue to work hard both in class and at home, to complete charity work, support the liturgical life of the college, attend school as much as they are capable, and complete letters of The Crest.

Social Media: I am a little concerned with how some of the pupils are engaging with social media. There have been a couple of occurrences of what could be seen as cyber-bullying this year which we must all work together to eradicate. Please ensure you are monitoring your son/daughter's social media accounts and if you have any concerns please pass them onto myself. I will be organising an assembly regarding the correct use of social media. I hope that the pupils will continue to use social media in a mature and appropriate manner.

And finally, although the pupils have chosen the subjects they would like to study for GCSE it is imperative that they continue to try their hardest across the curriculum and enjoy their last two terms studying a broad subject base. The Year 9 Summative report is published towards the end of July.

Please remember that we are always here to help and we all want to work closely with yourselves to ensure that your child is happy and fulfils his/her potential. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or your son/daughter's Form Tutor (email addresses are available via the school website), if you have any concerns. Have a happy, restful and peaceful Easter break.

Mr Holloway, Pastoral Leader Year 9 (mrhollowayt@strichardscc.com)

YEAR TEN NEWS

Rewards: Throughout Year 10, pupils have been collecting 'Achievement points' which you have been notified of via EduLink. I am really pleased to highlight some exceptional performances from: Nuala O'Rourke, Hannah Chan, Lucia Caitar, Nuala Andrews, Georgina Soggee, Joe Baszczak, Oliver Tattersall, Ben Simmons, Filip Mysliwiec and Alvin Manoj.

PSHEe: Year 10 have been focusing on emotional health, eating disorders and anxiety and depression in Term 4, with a particular focus on stopping the negative stigma around these issues and encouraging discussion around these topics.

Year 10 Service: Year 10 had a lovely service on the theme of Forgiveness. Thank you to all the musicians, readers and servers who participated. Special thanks to Jo and Mrs Byrne for organising.



Assemblies: Year 10 have been lucky enough to have a range of speakers visit during Term 4. East Sussex Coast College were invited in to promote the provision available in Eastbourne and Hastings and give a motivational and informative talk on selecting the correct courses post-16. Jay Wotten from Hastings Direct gave a workshop on being 'interview ready'. The pupils have also had a visit from the 'Challenge team' on sexual relationships outside of marriage and the consequences of promiscuity, which was, once again, a superb presentation. They have



also received assemblies on resilience and determination.

David Dein Talk: It was our great pleasure to welcome David Dein, former Arsenal Vice-Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Football Association and UEFA and FIFA Committees member. Mr Dein was the man who had the foresight to bring Arsene Wenger to Arsenal in 1996. During David's reign, Arsenal won: The League x 5, The FA Cup x 5, were UEFA Cup Winners, The League Cup x 2 and The Community Shield x 5 - a total of 18 trophies! Mr Dein was also a prime mover when the Premier League was launched in 1992. As Greg Dyke, the former Chairman of the FA, told the Financial Times, *"David Dein was the most revolutionary bloke I've met in football. David Dein created the Premier League, it was his idea."* Last year the Daily Mail published a list of the 50 most influential people in the history of the Premier League and David was in the top ten with people like Sir Alex Ferguson. These days David spends much of his time speaking in businesses schools and prisons, including the renowned Harvard Business School in Boston. It was a real pleasure to have him speak to 100 of our Year 10 pupils to encourage and motivate them; the pupils really enjoyed his talk.

Year 10 Exams: The mock examinations commence on Wednesday, 1st May until Friday, 10th May. The timetable has been emailed out to all parents and pupils along with a revision timetable exemplar.



Pupils have also been given paper copies to take home. Pupils should have already begun to revise for their end of year mock examinations. Pupils are expected to come prepared for their exams with all equipment required.

Homework: All pupils should be checking EduLink daily. It has come to my attention that some pupils are organising and completing their homework by date due rather than by date set, as encouraged, to avoid any organisational issues arising. All homework should be completed to the required standard and should be complete and handed in on time. Year 10 homework should be taking a minimum of 45 minutes per piece. Once again, as a reminder, if all homework is complete, pupils should be spending time reviewing their work or revising for any future tests. All pupils are aware of the sanctions around homework and the additional sanctions for repeat offenders. If your child is struggling with organisation or completing the homework due to understanding, Prep Club and Prep Club Plus run every week Monday to Thursday to further support pupils with their homework.

Many thanks in anticipation for your continued support. Wishing you an enjoyable and restful Easter break.

Mr Campbell, Assistant Principal & Pastoral Leader Year 10(mrcampbellj@strichardsgcc.com)

YEAR ELEVEN NEWS

I am very pleased with Year 11's behaviour and attitude towards their EBacc mocks. They have been mature in their approach and have taken the exams seriously. I hope to see pupils pleased that their hard work is paying off and, if this is not the case, that these results will act as a warning to start working hard now. An updated revision schedule including Easter holiday sessions is below.

Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>25th March</u> Afterschool	MFL Drama	Sports Studies	Maths	RE/ Science various rooms	History Lab 6 Geography A10	French B15 9-11am
<u>1st April</u> Afterschool	MFL Drama	Sports Studies	Maths	RE/ Science various rooms	History Lab 6 Geography A10	
<u>8th April</u> 9:00- 11:15am	Maths B4, B5, B6, B7 & B8	Maths B4, B5, B6, B7 & B8	Science Lab 6/7	History Lab 7/6 Geography Tech 4	Music Mu2 RE Lab 6	
11:15am- 1:30pm	History Lab 6			German B5 Spanish B13		

Achievement Points: I am sending home 38 postcards to the pupils who have achieved the most points for hard work regardless of ability. You will have received these by the time this newsletter is published. In assembly this week, 10 Amazon vouchers were handed out to the pupils who gained the most Achievement points and zero behaviour points. These were awarded to: Dilya Cornford, Kaira Rubit, Lily McGregor, Andrea De Freitas-Rodriguez, Lexie Coleman, Gregory Blake, Joseph Neilan, Will Brown, Duncan Norris and Dominic Sharp.

Form Mass: 111 celebrated their last Mass on the theme of New Beginnings. It was a lovely Mass looking forward to their new adventures, moving onto new colleges and exciting futures.

Photos: On Tuesday, 19th March we had the Year 11 photographs in the school gym. Thank you for making sure your son/daughter looked their smartest and arrived at school early so the day ran smoothly. You will be sent details of how to order the photographs very soon.



Some more Revision tips:

1. Attendance at after school and lunchtime revision will support GCSE success.
2. Talk to your child about what they are revising: what the final goal is and what will they gain from hard work over the next 3 months.
3. Ask them what they hope to achieve by the end of each revision session at home.
4. Praise all forward steps with revision, no matter how small, and reward if you can when you see appropriate progress. You will soon have your son/daughter's EBacc mock results so please congratulate all successes and encourage if you think they could work harder.
5. Remember you have had to revise for exams many times in your life so what would you do differently if you had the chance again? Explain this to your son/daughter.

Important Diary Dates:

Monday, 13th May - GCSE exams begin

Friday, 24th May - End of Term 5

Friday, 14th June – Leavers' Day (tbc)

Wednesday, 3rd July - Prom at the Powdermills Hotel

Exams: Important exam information can be found on the website. Please can all pupils, parents and carers familiarise themselves with all necessary documentation. It can be found at:

<https://www.strichardsgc.com/about-st-richards-catholic-college/exam-success-and-information/>

The final GCSE timetable can also be found here, but please note that JCQ have a Contingency Day for GCSE and/or GCE examinations on Wednesday, 26th June 2019 should sustained national or local disruption arise during the June 2019 examination series.

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter holiday. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

Mr Doherty, Assistant Principal & Pastoral Leader Year 11 (mrdohertyr@strichardsgc.com)

Special Educational Needs

In this newsletter I would like to focus on pupils' wellbeing, and your role as parents/carers in having a voice within the school.

Wellbeing: The young people in Download, the mental health participation group, and the Youth Cabinet produced a guidance booklet for East Sussex County Council entitled, 'Top Ten Tips for young people's mental health and wellbeing'. The full booklet is available here:

<https://czone.eastsussex.gov.uk/media/3505/top-ten-tips-to-support-mental-health.pdf>

I wish to draw your attention to the following ten recommended sources of support from this booklet (see right). If you have any experience of these or other support services, or help and advice websites, or if there are other sources of help which you have found beneficial, please let me know via email so these can be shared in a future newsletter. All contributions will be strictly anonymous.

Contributions from parents/ carers of young people with Special Educational Needs: In addition to this, I would like to request contributions from parents/ carers of pupils with SEN to share your experiences in this part of the newsletter.

What would you like the whole school community to know about your child's life at school or at home? Do you have any advice, ideas, insights or successes to share? Are there difficulties that the majority of parents/carers may not know about which you wish to share? If so, please contact me via email, marked 'Newsletter', with a brief piece for a future newsletter. Please be assured that, as above, all contributions will be strictly anonymous.

Parents/carers of pupils with SEN are also encouraged to join Miss Cronin's regular informal Parental Focus Group meetings. These sessions of around an hour are an excellent way of knowing more about what is changing within the school, and ensuring that your voice as a parent/carer of a child with SEN continues to be heard.

KS4 Exams: Well done to Year 11 for the successful completion of their EBacc mock examinations. If you have any queries about access arrangements, please contact myself, Mrs Britt (SEN Administrator) or Mrs Fletcher (Examinations Officer) as soon as possible. The GCSEs start in earnest on Monday, 13th May and, for most pupils, will be completed by Monday, 17th June. Please ensure your son/daughter is doing all he/she can in terms of effective revision to be as ready as possible for this intense five weeks in the life of our young people!

Year 10 pupils have their first mock examinations between Monday, 1st and Friday, 10th May. As above, please let myself, Mrs Britt or Mrs Fletcher know any queries as soon as possible.

Best wishes for a joyous and restful Easter break, and a successful new term.

Mr Smith and the SEN team

Top ten sources of support

1. FREE Online counselling for young people 12-18 in East Sussex
www.e-motion.org.uk
2. Young Minds website – www.youngminds.org.uk
3. Department for Education guidance for schools – Mental Health and Behaviour: Advice for Schools pdf goo.gl/GQTb0F
www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2
4. The National Children's Bureau toolkit A whole school framework for emotional well-being and mental health: a self-assessment and improvement tool for school leaders goo.gl/yygNtN
www.ncb.org.uk/resources-publications/resources/whole-school-framework-emotional-well-being-and-mental-health
5. PSHE Association – offers lesson plans on the subject of mental health goo.gl/8pD4Zk
www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/resources/guidance-preparing-teach-about-mental-health-and
6. Sussex Discovery College www.sussexrecoverycollege.org.uk
7. 360 website: an information portal for young people in East Sussex – www.c360.org.uk
8. BoingBoing – www.boingboing.org.uk
9. Chat health number in East Sussex for ESCC young people
07507 332473
10. Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families Schools in Mind Network – www.annafreud.org/what-we-do/schools-in-mind

Pupil Leadership

School Council: Our School Council members have now met four times this year. I congratulated the pupils on their contributions to "Yellow Week" which raised over £1000 for St Michael's Hospice. Amongst other business, the School Council are currently organising a bid to the PTFA for some improvements to the Year 7 playground as well as beginning preparations for our next charity focus which will be for the Deaf Cultural Outreach Group (DeafCOG). As part of this, we would like to offer a short course in British sign language. If anybody is able to help us with this, then please email me at mrlahachea@strichardscc.com. The next School Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, 30th April.

The CREST: Pupils from Years 8-11 are continually being encouraged to complete their CREST booklets. For Year 10, in particular, it is important to note that they must have achieved at least a Silver Award by the summer term to apply for Prefect status in Year 11. Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved Awards since January.

- Gold Award – Annabelle Goldsmith (Y10) & Nuala O'Rourke (Y10).
- Silver Award – Alice Funnell (Y10), Oliver Tattersall (Y10), Millie McIvor (Y10), Joe Baszczak (Y10), Emma Folwell (Y10), Angelina Tadros (Y10), Georgina Soggee (Y10) & Leo Jones (Y8).
- Bronze Award – Olimpia Croucher (Y10), Nuala Andrews (Y10) & Zak Prawanna (Y10).

Law Club: The Law Club took part in the mock court trial competition at Sevenoaks Magistrates Court on Saturday, 16th March. The team arrived well prepared and in good spirits. They took on two other schools from the area: Beacon Academy from Crowborough and Weald of Kent Grammar School in Tonbridge. The competition was fiercely contested and the judges were very impressed with our pupils' performance. Weald of Kent eventually won by a narrow margin, but our team pushed them all the way. I would like to congratulate the team for their incredible maturity in their preparation for the competition as well as their conduct on the day. They did myself and the college extremely proud. The team were: Amovi Franklin-Lester, Ewan Hoyle, Gabrielle Stein, Aisling Eldridge, Reggie Barker, Amy Bossom, Tina Hovhannessian, Ben Taylor, Harry Brown, Leo Jones, Charlie Tanner, Edward Pepper & Arthur Pepper.



Law Club will continue this year as we look to hone our skills and expand the club to more age groups in preparation for next year's competition. Law Club takes place after school on Thursdays in Lab 7. Anyone interested in joining should speak to Mr Lahache.

Mr Lahache

Congratulations to...

James Rosie who is hoping to pursue an education pathway in America. He has recently gained a 2-year Football and Education Scholarship which will formally start in September 2019. He also has an interview with FirstPoint USA for support with scholarship funding to an American college or university.

Rory Eade who gained Distinction in his LAMDA Speaking Verse and Prose exam.

Well-Being and Support

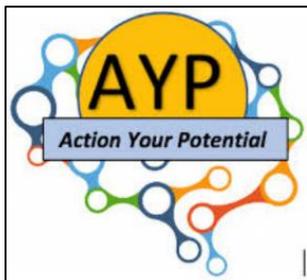


i-Rock

i-Rock is a service for 14-25 year olds based at Rock House, Hastings (next to the old Observer building, up the road from ESK). We are made up of lots of different services that help and support young people. We are open Monday-Friday as a drop-in between the hours of 11am-6pm. You can just turn up when you're free or if you prefer to you can make an appointment through our Facebook page. You can come and talk to workers that will always

be happy to see you, listen and try to find you the right support. So, whether it is issues with emotional well-being, mental health, education, employment or housing, pop in and see us.

St Richard's Parent Support Service - Action Your Potential



The next dates are:

Tuesday, 30th April, 6:00–7:00pm: Surviving and Thriving In Your GCSEs

Tuesday, 14th May, 6:30-8:00pm: The Way of the Neuro-Ninja

We will also be adding extra dates due to popular demand; more on these additional dates soon.

St Richard's Parent Support Service website is:

www.actionyourpotentialtoday.com. It is a site for our parents so it has a password: Neocortex123. The site features lots of details about how the brain works and how to get the best out of yours and your son or daughter's brain. There are six information packs on the site:

Pack 1: Mind Your Brain - gives you a tour of the brain and some of its key features.

Pack 2: Being Anxiety Aware - looks at the issue of anxiety, what causes it and how to respond.

Pack 3: Well-Being is a Skill - looks at what we have to do to make sure our brains and bodies are okay.

Pack 4: The Learning Brain - everything you ever wanted to know about how we learn.

Pack 5: To Study Success - tools from brain science to help your child become an excellent student.

Pack 6: The Neuro-Ninja Parent - a set of principles to apply to parenting built from what we have learnt about neuroscience.

In-school support:

A reminder of the different support systems in school:

- *County school nurse drop-in service - Every Thursday in Mrs Bligh's Office*
- *School Counsellor (pupils can self-refer via their Form Tutor or Pastoral Leader)*
- *Staff mentors (we have a number of staff with particular strengths in pupil mentoring - please get in touch with your son/daughter's Form Tutor if you think this would help)*
- *Young Carers – drop-in sessions*
- *Chaplaincy team support - run by Jo Doyle, Lay Chaplain.*
- *Spectrum (in-house bereavement course)*

Pupil Groups held at lunchtimes:

- *Well-Being Ambassadors*
- *Anti-Bullying Ambassadors*
- *Equality group*

We ensure that there are designated schemes of work in PSHEe in all years on taking care of yourself and supporting one another and we will continue to make this a key theme of our tutor work and assemblies.

Please do not ever hesitate to get in touch to discuss a worry or concern about your child as there are also a number of agencies we can signpost you to. We will continue to send out, via email, courses or activities going on in the local area that also offer support to parents and their children.

Mrs Bligh, Vice Principal (mrsblighd@strichardscs.com)

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

"Someone taking advantage of you sexually, for their own benefit. Through threats, bribes, violence, humiliation or by telling you that they love you, they will have the power to get you to do sexual things for their own or other people's enjoyment."

Possible signs that your child is being exploited:

- Being very secretive, including about what they are doing online
- Going to unusual places to meet friends
- Having access to drugs and alcohol
- Going missing or regularly returning home late
- Regularly not being where they should be, like school
- Appearing with unexplained gifts, money or new possessions
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends
- Suffering from sexually transmitted infections
- Mood swings or changes in behaviour
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Inappropriate sexualised behaviour



YMCA WiSE PROJECT

Supporting children and young people
to stay safe in their relationships

What can you do about it? Top Tips for Parents and Carers:

- Get to know their friends, where they meet and what they do. Be cautious of friendships where there's a power imbalance, like someone who's much older.
- Be interested in your child's online world. Talk to them about the social media apps they use. Visit <https://parentzone.org.uk/parent-info> to learn the benefits and risks of apps and put measures in place to minimise risks.
- Talk to your child about the risks of sexting.
- If your child is going out make sure they have a plan to help them stay safe. Make sure their phone is fully charged and has credit to call/message and they know how they are going to get home.
- Learn about drugs and alcohol so you know the signs and can talk to your child if you're worried: www.talktofrank.com
- Talk to your child about what exploitation is and reassure them that any exploitation they may have experienced is not their fault.
- Trust your gut instincts.

For more information, visit our website: www.ymcadlg.org/wise

Find YMCA WiSE on social media: Facebook: The WiSE Project; Instagram: @ymcawise;
Twitter: @TheWiSEProject; Email: wise@ymcadlg.org

Mrs Hills (mrshillsa@strichardscs.com)

Instagram worst for child grooming online - NSPCC finds

BBC news - 1/2/2019 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47410520>

Sex offenders are grooming children on Instagram more than any other online platform, a charity has found. Police in England and Wales recorded 1,944 incidents of sexual communication with children in the six months to September 2018, the NSPCC says.

Instagram was used in **32%** of the 1,317 cases where the method was recorded, **Facebook** in **23%** and **Snapchat** in **14%**. Instagram and Facebook said they "aggressively" fought grooming, while Snapchat said it was "unacceptable".

Sexual communication with a child became an offence in April 2017, following pressure from campaigners. In the 18 months that followed, more than 5,000 online grooming offences were recorded by police, according to data gathered by the NSPCC. The **NSPCC** wants new laws to **force social media firms to do more** to protect children.

A **National Crime Agency** spokesperson said: *"It is vital that online platforms used by children and young people have in place robust mechanisms and processes to prevent, identify and report sexual exploitation and abuse, including online grooming. Children and young people also need easy access to mechanisms allowing them to alert platforms to potential offending."*

A spokesperson for Facebook, which also owns Instagram, said keeping young people safe was its "top priority". *"We use advanced technology and work closely with the police and CEOP [Child Exploitation and Online Protection] to aggressively fight this type of content and protect young people."*



REPORT ABUSE
ceop.police.uk

Miss Cook - Computing and ICT teacher (mscooks@strichardscs.com)

CAREERS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

CAREERS FAYRE

Year 9 and 10 pupils were able to attend a Careers Fayre in school at the end of February, where they had the opportunity to speak to local colleges, training providers and businesses. Pupils were able to take home college prospectuses and ask information about college courses and entry requirements. Lots of pupils came away feeling enthused about their subject choices and excited about the range of opportunities available, many of which they had not previously considered. Thank you to Cath Brunger, AXA PPP, for your support of this event.



YEAR 9 CAREERS WORKSHOPS

On Tuesday, 5th March the whole of Year 9 took part in a careers workshop. We were lucky to have seven workshops running by former pupils and local employers. The Year 9 pupils chose in advance the workshop of their choice. The workshops were:

1. Accountancy – Gemma Newstead, Ashdown Hurrey
2. Architecture – James Thompson (former pupil)
3. Law – Lauren Kenny, Gurney Harden Solicitors
4. Life after St Richard's - James Newport (former pupil)
5. ICT - Brian Conheady, Astec Computing
6. Army - Major Edward Adams (former pupil)
7. Respiratory Nurse - Georgie Luxford, Conquest Hospital (former pupil)

The feedback from both the staff and pupils was fantastic with all involved recognising the value of this time spent with an employer. Thank you to all those that delivered a workshop.

WORK EXPERIENCE MOCK INTERVIEWS

Year 10 pupils will go on a week's work experience in June 2019. In preparation for this the timetable is suspended for one morning of activities. The activities include writing a curriculum vitae, role play and health and safety whilst in the workplace. Each pupil also attends a 20 minute one to one interview.

I am looking for volunteers to act as interviewers for this morning, which will take place on Tuesday, 4th June 2019. Each interviewer will see approximately 3-4 pupils over the duration of the morning. Feedback should be given to the pupils in terms of their CVs and any tips or advice for the future. If you are interested in being involved in this event or would like further information, please contact me at the email address below.

Mrs C Adams, Careers Lead

(mrsadamsc@strichardsc.com)

PTFA

Please support the PTFA's latest fundraising event for equipment for the new sports hall. A great way to begin the Easter holidays.

St Richard's Catholic College PTFA

presents

The Chandeliers' Live Band

Manor Barn, Bexhill



Saturday, 6th April 2019

7.00-11.00pm

£20 per ticket

including a buffet

All proceeds raised go to the school

A licensed bar will be provided

Tickets on sale in the school reception or from the PTFA

Please note this event is for parents, friends and staff

English Department

KS3

World Book Day: St Richard's celebrated a love of books and reading on Thursday, 7th March to commemorate World Book Day. Year 7 pupils and staff dressed up as their favourite book character. Pupils came to school in an exciting array of costumes from Oompah Loompah's to Alice in Wonderland. Nico Luscombe won first prize as the Genie from Disney's Aladdin. Whilst runners up included Liliana Kuprowska as Alice in Wonderland and Joseph Edwards as a Ratburger character by David Walliams. All pupils who took part in fancy dress looked fantastic and were awarded a free book for their efforts. Additionally, a select number of pupils were invited to take part in an author's workshop on the day. Kate O'Hearn, author of *Pegasus* and *Valkyrie*, spent the afternoon with Year 8 and 9 pupils answering questions about becoming an author, her books and delivering a workshop on creative writing. Pupils found it both riveting and inspiring. It was a great day for celebrating a love of reading and literature.



Theatre Trip: A group of pupils had the opportunity to visit the theatre on Friday, 22nd March, this time to see Noughts and Crosses at the Theatre Royal Brighton. Pupils enjoyed the show and we hope that more pupils take the opportunity to join us on our future theatre trips.

Miss Rowland, Literacy & KS3 Coordinator

Battle and Bexhill Rotary Youth Speaks Competition:

Huge congratulations to our two public speaking teams who competed in the local rounds of Youth Speaks at Claverham Community College on Wednesday, 27th February. The intermediate team consisting of Leo Jones, Eliza Brown and Marni Lippin spoke on the topic of The Effects of our Choices and came in second place with a highly entertaining performance.



Our KS4 senior team consisted of Maddie Baszczak, Joe Baszczak and Nuala O'Rourke who presented on the topic of Makeup throughout History and they explored its links with social status and feminism. It was a truly professional and engaging performance. They were the runners up in such a challenging category.

Well done to both teams and thank you to Mrs Niitsoo for her time rehearsing the teams!
A reminder that Deba8 Club runs every Thursday in A8 and Creative Writing Club every Friday also in A8.

Mrs Wood, Acting Subject Leader for English



KS4

Year 11 pupils have now completed their final round of mock exams. Please act on the feedback your teachers have given you, and keep working on those skills and areas of knowledge that the teachers have highlighted. As we have completed the course, pupils are receiving five lessons of guided revision a week with their teacher. On top of this, it is essential that they have a revision timetable and they systematically revise for both English Language papers (fiction and non-fiction), as well as their Literature papers: *Macbeth*, your chosen 19th century text, your chosen modern text, the Power and Conflict poetry from the AQA anthology and unseen poetry.

Your English GCSE exams are as follows:

English Literature Paper 1 (Shakespeare and 19th century text) on Wednesday, 15th May
English Literature Paper 2 (modern text, comparative poetry and unseen poetry) on Thursday, 23 May

English Language Paper 1 (fiction reading and writing) on Tuesday, 4th June

English Language Paper 2 (non-fiction reading and writing) on Friday, 7th June

To ensure that you are fully prepared for the exams, use a range of strategies to memorise the themes, characters, contextual information, methods, and quotes. Your teachers will be able to direct you towards revision websites, but BBC Bitesize and GCEPod are both excellent starting points. **Monday morning invitation-only English Language intervention sessions during tutor time will continue in A3.** If you have received the invite, it is imperative that you do attend. A reminder that **supervised study sessions continue** after school in **A1** on the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Wednesday, 27th March 2019	English Language Paper 2 Reading
Thursday, 4th April 2019	English Language Paper 2 Writing
Tuesday, 23rd April 2019	English Literature revision
Thursday, 2nd May 2019	English Language revision
Wednesday, 8th May 2019	General English revision

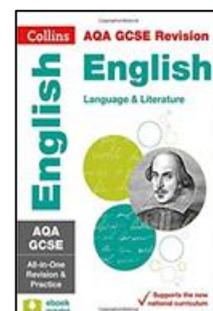
To quote Nelson Mandela, **'It always seems impossible until it is done.'** You can do this! Revise little and often, take frequent rest breaks, be kind to yourself, and it will happen. **Good luck to you all!**

Year 10: You have just completed your English Language Paper 1 reading assessment, as well as English Literature Paper 2: Comparative Poetry. Keep learning the quotes, context and methods, and make sure you can use subject terminology with confidence.

In May, Year 10 will be sitting their first round of Mocks in the gym. English Literature Paper 2 (modern text, comparative poetry and unseen poetry) on Thursday, 2nd May and English Language Paper 2 (non-fiction reading and writing) on Friday, 3rd May.

Parents: To aid pupils' revision, we have a stock of **Collins AQA GCSE Revision Guides which cover language and literature** - they include revision materials, practice questions and exam guidance. They are available from Mrs Niitsoo in **A1 for £5** (cheaper than the £10.99 RRP!). These will also be available to purchase from your teacher at Year 10 Parents' Evening on Thursday, 28th March. For text-specific guides, we recommend the Yorknotes 9-1 guides. As always, thank you for your support.

Mrs Niitsoo, KS4 Co-ordinator



Maths News

The number 2019 has some interesting properties. It can only be divided exactly by four whole numbers (1, 3, 673 and 2019). It is the product of two prime numbers; 3 and 673. 2019 seconds is the same as 33 minutes and 39 seconds. 2019mm is the same as 6 feet 7.5 inches (or one Peter Crouch - a footballer.)

2019

$$3, 2, 4 = 10$$

$$4, 3, 5 = 17$$

$$5, 4, 6 = 26$$

$$6, 5, 7 = 37$$

$$7, 6, 8 = ?$$

Maths Competition

This edition's competition (see left) is for Year 7 and 8 only. As well as supplying the correct answer you must be able to explain, in a short sentence or two, how to work it out.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Charlie Bushell 7S, Charlie Edwards-Oliver 7R, Holli Harding 7S and Joseph Woodgate 7H - all of these pupils scored well over 80% in their recent Algebra assessment.

Congratulations also go to Karolina Silwa 8H, Ruby Gentry 8R, Aston Abhilash 8I and Barney Mackew 8H, who all scored over 80% in their assessment based on Expressions and Equations.

Maths Feast 2019

"A few weeks ago, I participated in the 'Maths Feast 2019' at Ratton School. Myself, Leo, Annabelle and Philip all took part in representing the school at this event. The day consisted of six rounds, all involving individual and team efforts. Each round was based on a different "Maths" meal and the rounds progressively changed with regards to difficulty and skill. In several rounds, I learnt new skills, with sheets to help us understand. This was something new, as we had to work out completely for ourselves what to do without any assistance, or interaction with others. All the rounds were different, allowing us to see our strengths and weaknesses throughout the games. Overall, we won two of the six rounds, and came first overall with our averaged points. I really enjoyed representing the school, and it made me think on the spot about different techniques and decisions relating to the task." MW, Year 10

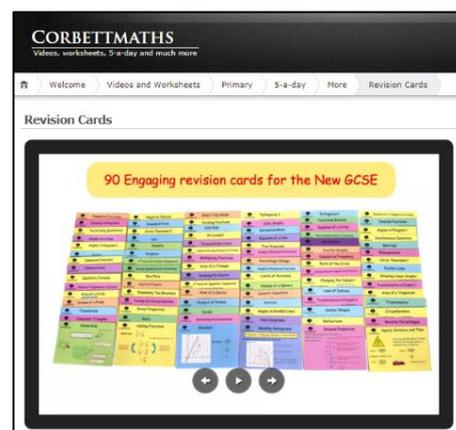
Famous Mathematician

Marie-Sophie Germain (1776 - 1831) was a French mathematician and philosopher. After initial opposition from her parents, and the hurdles presented by society at that time, Marie-Sophie educated herself by using her father's collection of books. As women were barred from university courses she sent in work under a pseudonym. One of the members of staff was so impressed that he demanded to meet her, forcing Marie-Sophie to reveal her true identity. Always looking to extend her knowledge and ideas, she corresponded with great mathematicians of the time such as Lagrange and Gauss. She is buried in the famous Pere Lachaise cemetery in Paris. A street, a girls' school and a French mathematical prize are all named after her.



Year 11 Revision

There is a significant amount of support in place for our Year 11 pupils as they progress towards Maths GCSE. They all have the opportunity to purchase sets of revision cards specifically designed for the new specification exams. The cards show notes and examples on the front while the reverse has QR codes which link to over 10 hours of video and 1000 questions and answers. The Maths department has negotiated a significant discount on the usual price and initial reaction has been overwhelmingly positive. *"Just what I've been looking for."* LB.



UKMT Team Challenge

Well done to the UKMT team: Arthur Pepper, Frieya Biju Ampalathattil, Jonathan Reis-Ataide and Samantha Zebrak who took part in the Team Maths Challenges at Robertsbridge on 20th March 2019. The pupils were in third place until the final round and finished the day off 5th in a closely scored challenge against some strong opposition. The day was enjoyed by all who participated in it. The pupils took part in a number of rounds:

- **Group Round:** Team work to solve ten questions of varying type and difficulty in the time allowed.
- **Crossnumber:** Similar to a crossword but with numerical answers. Teams work in pairs; one pair has the across clues and the other pair has the down clues. The pairs work independently to complete the grid using logic and deduction.
- **Shuttle Teams:** Compete against the clock to correctly answer a series of four questions. Each team is divided into Pair A (given Questions 1 and 3) and Pair B (given Questions 2 and 4). Question 1 can be solved independently of the others, but the answer to each subsequent question is dependent on the previous answer, referred to as T in Questions 2, 3 and 4 (e.g. "T is the number that you will receive").
- **Relay Teams:** Split off into pairs, with pairs taking it in turns to solve problems. This round involves lots of movement as well as mathematics: a race against the clock with lots of lively activity and excitement.

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

Congratulations to pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 who took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge in February. The questions in the Challenge are designed to encourage pupils to develop mathematical reasoning to solve non-standard problems. The Maths Department at St Richard's are very pleased with the results our pupils achieved: 2 Gold, 16 Silver and 35 Bronze certificates were awarded. Year 10 pupils Filip Mysliwicz and Thomas Jeffreys were invited to take part in the next round. We await their results.

Gold Certificate

Year 10: Filip Mysliwicz and Thomas Jeffreys.

Silver Certificate

Year 11: Aneurin Goodman, Abbie Pinnington, Kiara Sendhilkumaran, Deshan Sureshan, Carl Gonzales, William Brown, Alexia Antonislas and Hugo Corbin.

Year 10: Stuart Norris, Emma Roper, Francis Collinson, Luciano Salas, Justis Smith and Anique Crouch.

Year 9: Elysia Hough and Joseph Roser.

Bronze Certificate

Year 11: Georgina Cockett, Larisa Lam, Alastair Rey, Tomasz Bocon, Joseph Neilan, Xavier Ralph, Bradley Hare, Isabelle Pilon, Samuel Zambetakis, Dilys Cornford, Alen Geevarghese, Jessica Cullinane, Rebecca Appleton, Arthur Campbell and Charles Laver.

Year 10: Alicia Smith, Andrew Byles, Angelina Tadros, Aswani Arun, Caitlyn Jenner, Robin Daly, Annabelle Goldsmith, Hannah Chan, Sean Hayden-Ling, Marcus Layberry, Jude Deedigan, Leo Mummery and Michael Moniz.

Year 9: Arthur Pepper, Bethany Read, Ivan Doolan Tanner, Joseph Malloy, Zack Appleyard, Edward Pepper and Florence Assetto.

Numeracy Intervention Programme

Well done to the pupils who have been completing and showing Miss Kent their work from the Numeracy Intervention Programme. Having strong numeracy skills is crucial to a pupil's understanding of later GCSE topics. Developing and practising these topics will greatly benefit pupils' attainment in their daily lessons and future GCSE exams. To gain your achievement points for completed worksheets, remember

to mark your work yourself, have a parent or carer sign it, and show Miss Kent in Link 2. If you have any questions regarding this programme please contact Miss Kent: misskentt@strichardscs.com



**Pupils enjoying
Maths Week activities**



Mr Stickland, Maths Department

Pay Online for School Uniform/Equipment and Trips

A school uniform and equipment price list and order form can now be viewed/downloaded on the school website at the following link: <https://www.strichardscs.com/school-life/uniform/>

Uniform/equipment can also be ordered and paid for on-line using the following link (which can be found beneath the school uniform order form): <https://www.scopay.com/login.html>

To use this on-line payment system you need to request login details from the Finance Office, if you have not already done so. Payments are processed securely through Worldpay.

Please email: finance@strichardscs.com for login details.

Uniform can also be purchased by pupils from Mrs O'Brien. Payment can be made by cash or cheque.

School Lunch and ParentPay Queries

If you have a query regarding school lunches please contact the Catering Manager, Julie Slayford, via email: U72911@compass-group.co.uk

If the problem is with ParentPay please go to the ParentPay website: <https://www.parentpay.com/parents/using-parentpay>

St Richard's does not have access to ParentPay accounts. We are only able to print a letter providing you with the activation details to set up an account.



RE DEPARTMENT NEWS

As always, this term has been a very busy one for all the pupils and teachers in the RE department.

In **Year 7**, pupils have been completing a topic called “Jesus our Saviour.” They have taken a really close look at the events of Holy Week and learnt about the journey Jesus took to the cross. They have focused, not only on the events from the Gospel, but also the theological importance of this for us as Catholics. When they go to Church during Holy Week, I hope they will use all they have learnt and have a deeper understanding of how we celebrate Holy Week.



Year 8 pupils have completed a topic called “God is Calling you.” This topic covers vocation, marriage, confirmation and ordination. Many groups have been privileged to have a Priest or Deacon visit their RE class to find out more about vocation. A huge thank you to our Priests and Deacons who have been able to come in to talk to our pupils. It is always a valuable experience to have a “personal encounter” to help strengthen the pupils’ learning.

In **Year 9**, pupils have continued working on their “Faith into Action” activities. Pupils have been very busy organising, creating and taking part in a variety of activities. As a department, it has been a delight to see so many pupils taking a really active part in this work. Below are some of the achievements and activities pupils have completed so far...very well done!!! Eliza Brown and Mattie Hawkins organised a cake sale after Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea in February raising £110. Ellie Collins did a sponsored silence and raised £42 for CAFOD.



In **Year 10**, pupils have been learning about a topic called “Forms of Expression.” In this topic pupils have learnt about the internal and external features of a Church, artwork, symbols, drama and music. This unit has helped pupils learn more about how we express and celebrate our Catholic faith within our worship. Year 10 should start to get their resources/notes together and start to prepare themselves for their mocks next term.

In **Year 11**, pupils have completed the GCSE course and are now underway with their revision for the GCSE in May. The majority of pupils are working on a rotation system where each teacher revises a different part of the course with pupils. In addition, RE intervention continues during this time. Pupils are aware of who they are and they are regularly reminded via lessons and Edulink when intervention is on. RE intervention is on every Thursday after school in A4. Finally, each Year 11 pupil has been given three revision guides (covering the three papers that pupils will be taking in May).



These guides have been created by the department and we have put a lot of time and hard work into them to ensure they contain all the information pupils need for the exams. We are charging £1 (to help towards the photocopying cost) for these guides. They are able to pay any member of the RE department. We expect pupils to use these guides productively and actively to help with their revision. There is also a wealth of information on Google Drive for pupils to use as they approach the RE exams. If pupils are having difficulty with accessing these resources they should come and see Mrs Mead.

Finally, we were very lucky to have Mr and Mrs Khan (former parents of the school) come in to talk to some of our Year 11 pupils about Islam. Pupils were able to use what they have learnt about Islam to ask questions to Mr and Mrs Khan. Pupils said they really enjoyed this opportunity and felt it had really helped embed the information they had learnt in class.

Mrs Mead, Subject Leader for RE

Science Department News

Year 11: Engineering Education Scheme (EES)

Despite the looming presence of the GCSE examinations, the St Richard's EES team have met regularly to ensure that they are able to submit their project report on time and will be finessing their presentation for the final Celebration and Assessment Day at the end of April. Some of the team found time amidst the mock examination revision to join the 'STEM Special Projects' group in constructing the Tardis for our Science Week celebrations. With final building and testing to be completed, we wish them well in the final project presentations.'



Ian Dunne's 'Science Magic... Robot Science'



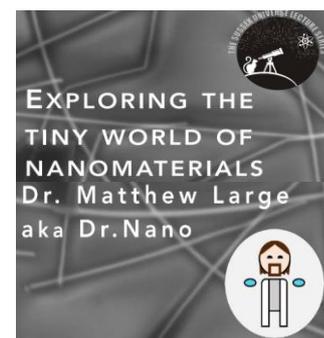
7F turned out in force in the February holiday to visit the 'Science Magic...Robot Science' Show, part of Brighton Science Festival, with Lucy Bateman reporting, 'The show was very exciting and was hilarious with hair-raising Barbie dolls!' Mia Peck thought, 'The school science show was really fun and cool and funny. The robots were made by the inventor who was leading the show and was also doing magic tricks.' Although the robots were a little temperamental (especially the cat) for the most part the pupils

were quite impressed by them. Luke Hopkins reported, 'He made a metal pole sing and Barbie's hair stand up and showed a machine that made lightning bolts!' Adam Roby thought that, 'the trip was amazing. I really liked it when Ian used the Tesla coil when playing songs,' and Dino Grandi thought that when Ian 'played the saw, it was really inspiring.' Muriele Mercado also enjoyed 'all the musical parts'. Year 10 MAD Scientists, Hannah Chan and Alicia Smith thought that the minibus driving and tricky parking was 'amazing!' with Hannah adding that she 'loved the robots and magic tricks and how to solve them!' and she even persuaded Ian to pose for a selfie.



Sussex University Lecture: Exploring the Tiny World of Nanomaterials by Dr Matthew Large (a.k.a. Dr Nano)

Peter John of 7F said, 'Our trip to the University of Sussex was very exciting. My favourite part of the lecture was when he was talking about the possibilities of graphene in technology, since graphene is my favourite thing to talk about when talking about science.' Lucy Bateman also enjoyed the trip, adding, 'The evening lecture was fantastic with Dr Nano (a.k.a. Dr Large) talking about nanomaterials which really intrigued me. Ways to use these nanosystems include curing cancer tumours and non-reflective flexible T.V. screens etc.'



Science Storytellers 3: Periodicity

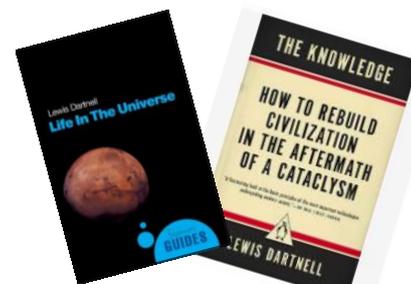
The Science Storytellers continue with their exploration of all things STEAM, related to the International Year of the Periodic Table. In music, they have been using the boomwhackers to learn the harmony and melody for the Periodic Table song, with learning about the pentatonic scale and octets thrown in. In science they have been completing flame tests related to the Group 1 elements and in art they have been preparing their posters for the large periodic table which will

be mounted on the Year 7 playground.

Visit from Professor Lewis Dartnell

In a prelude to our Science Week celebrations, we welcomed Professor Lewis Dartnell back to St Richard's in a 'double-header' fixture, where he addressed Year 8 pupils during the day and the public in the evening. All Year 8 pupils were treated to a consideration of 'Life In The Universe' stretching from the extremophiles that call the Earth their home to an explanation of his involvement in the 'ExoMars' Rover. After signing ExoMars posters for a small group of Year 8 pupils during the day, Lewis returned in the evening to share his more recent talk 'The Knowledge: How To Rebuild Civilisation in the Aftermath of a Cataclysm' and sign copies of all of his books.

William Umel reported, 'My favourite part was the volcanic rainbow colours of the acid pool in Yellowstone where the extremophiles and bacteria live', whereas Year 8's Wojtek enjoyed the presentation and thought 'the methane worms were interesting





in how they eat frozen methane'. Other Year 8 pupils were also intrigued by the methane worms that live on Earth and Oli, 'liked the part when he talked about the ExoMars robot that is going to land on Mars and dig two metres into the sand or dust and experiment on it to then see if there is any life on Mars. My message for the future is 'I wonder if there is going to be loads of planets that have life on them?'

Jasmine 'enjoyed the presentation particularly finding out about the rover.' Micky Ripley thought, 'It was all pretty decent. I liked the actual robot because it's nice and creative and it's really cool the way it works. I also found out about methane worms.' Sam, Jamie and Harris also 'liked ExoMars and the 2 metre drill bit' and Laurina added, 'I think it was really cool that we have built a robot that will go to Mars and how we are able to see other worlds.'



Corey liked the methane worm and the 'idea of a second Earth'. He also enjoyed hearing about 'the high tech robot that collects the soil of Mars. The possibility of a second Earth got me very excited - I would like to visit!' Finally, everyone agreed that they would watch where they stepped if they visited Yellowstone Park!

IoP Public Talk 'Can Plastic Still Be Fantastic?'

This was a very intriguing talk given by the highly excitable and passionate Dr Jess Wade. The talk prompted considerable debate in our pupils, around the widely publicised hazards associated with single-use plastics and offered an alternative future of highly specialised plastic technology used in specialised electronic devices, medical treatments and food preservation.

Year 9 pupils Talia Cahill and Taylor Jensen enjoyed the evening discussions with Talia commenting as follows: 'I learnt that plastic is used in many forms i.e televisions and extra-large OLED sheets. I found it very intriguing to learn that plastic is used in the majority of everything and that it doesn't have to be dangerous or damaging to the environment.' Taylor added, 'I found it very interesting, to learn how much plastic is in different things, for instance with one plastic bottle, you can make 41-ish 55 inch TVs.' Aisling Eldridge was also intrigued by the OLED TV screens, noting, 'I found it really interesting how you can make 41 55" TVs with one plastic bottle. It's also really fascinating how plastic can be used in very many different ways, not just the bad ways that are on those television screens!'



The Year 9 boys were more focused on the applications of the highly flexible plastics with Jack Floyd reporting that he 'found the talk very informative based upon the fact that I learnt how plastic can be used in different ways. I also found it cool that plastic could be used in technology and computer parts etc.' Luca Hale-Stretton noted, 'I thought it was very interesting although it was not what I expected.' Will Jones recorded, 'I thought that this trip was very interesting as plastic can be used in many more ways than I thought e.g. flexible displays that can be sliced in half and still function or transparent computer components.'

Ivan Doolan Tanner concurred and added, 'The trip was absolutely fabulous as it really informed me on the genius of the uses of plastics and how plastics have gotten a hard time in the news lately although they have amazing properties.' It appears that flexible OLED screens will be the next big thing in our mobile phones.

Celebrating Science Week 2019

With a day of Physics and Astronomy Outreach from University of Sussex, the annual Special Science Supper and the return of a Dr Who theme, our Science Week celebrations were celebrated by pupils from every year group in addition to welcoming 12 primary schools for a lab-based whodunit.



Year 9 Astronomers enjoyed a Spectroscopy workshop, Year 10 pupils enjoyed some Radioactivity revision and Year 7 pupils were extremely enthusiastic about their Rocket workshop. Ashley Salvador said, *'It was so much fun doing rockets. I learned about rockets, satellites and a lot more. I've really enjoyed it!'* Lucy Bateman reported, *'The workshop on Wednesday was awesome. We designed and made rockets but unfortunately we couldn't launch them into the sky due to sudden changes in the weather. We started off with an introductory quiz and I enjoyed that because I got 6/7 correct! All of the team from Sussex University were cool (all Sheldons!).'*

Summer Crossett was also at the Year 7 Rocket Making and reported, *'The rocket workshop was fun and I really enjoyed making the rockets. We learned about GPS and what satellites are used for. We worked in pairs to put the rockets together, decorate them and add colours and stickers. However, we couldn't launch them on Wednesday as it was too windy. I was very happy with the results and would definitely do it again!'*



Special Science Supper: College pupils from St Mary's School and College joined Dr Littlejohns and Year 10 Science Ambassador and Student Listener, Hannah Chan, for practical activities with a pizza tea finale.

Friday Finale: The primary pupils said, *'WE LOVE SCIENCE! The children were so excited all day, and this was down to not only the range of activities and the context of Dr Who being something they could relate to, but also because the staff were all so on-board and things like the acting and the dancing just went that extra mile to ensure this would be a day the children will remember for a long time.'*

Year 11: A few Year 11 pupils were treated to a 'cool' lesson revising Energy Transfers with dry ice. Loralie reported, *'In our lesson we were able to learn about energy transfers using dry ice which was literally really cool!'* Due to it being a practical it was exciting to use the solid carbon dioxide. I found the lesson better than if we were to just sit and write in our books'. Sinnead *'enjoyed doing the spontaneous P2 revision with the dry ice. It was good to go over energy transfers again in a more relaxed environment.'* Alexia was congratulatory, stating that the *'show was lovely to watch - both entertaining and funny'* and Carlos and Archie also enjoyed the entertainment, particularly the *'dancing dalek, dry ice and bubbles'*. The last word on another fantastic Science Week celebration goes to a secret scientist who wanted to remain anonymous but shared the following thoughts, *'I enjoyed science very much today, especially when we got to learn about energy transfers with the dry ice. It was very educational and fun and I am glad I got to take part.'*

***** Extra-Curricular Science Activities *****

Fab Fizzix - Tuesday 1.10 – 1.35pm in Lab. 4

St Richard's Amateur Radio Club (StAR Club) - Wednesdays 3.30 – 5.00pm in Lab. 4

Young Investigators - Thursday lunchtimes in Lab. 7

GEMS - Thursday 1.00 – 1.30pm in Lab. 4

St Richard's Science Storyteller 3: Periodicity – Invited Year 7 pupils, Thursday after-school

***** Trips*****

Space Camp and Ethical Eden Trips are both full.

Chichester Day Trip to South Downs Planetarium – Saturday, 27th April 2019

Day Trip to STEMfest, Big Bang South East – Wednesday, 26th June 2019

Science in the City (Year 8 Block day) – Friday, 5th – Saturday, 6th July 2019

CAT Camp 2019 - Residential trip to North Wales - October Half Term 2019 (tbc)



MFL NEWS

MFL Club meets
Every Monday: 1:00pm until 1:30pm
French (B14) Spanish (B13) German (B5)

MFL BAKE-OFF SUCCESS

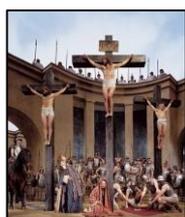


The MFL team organised a Fairtrade bake off to raise awareness of the products that you can buy with the Fairtrade logo. We focused on sugar, chocolate and bananas, however you can also buy Fairtrade flowers and clothes. The purpose of Fairtrade is to provide decent working conditions and a fairer deal for farmers and workers in developing countries. Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils made beautiful and delicious cakes using Fairtrade products and listed their ingredients in the language they are learning. The cakes were judged at the start of lunch by our Head Boy and Head Girl and then sold to the school during lunchtime. The winners were Amelie, Florence and Liliana; please see Jo, the Lay Chaplain, to receive your winning prize.



CULTURE CORNER

French: The French word for Easter is **Pâques**. To say Happy Easter you can say **Joyeuses Pâques** or **Bonnes Pâques**. If a baby is born around Easter-time, then the name chosen for the baby might be Pascal, meaning 'belonging to Easter'. You can discover more about Easter traditions in France at this website: <http://www.euroclubschools.org/page36.htm> See what you can find out and share with your French teacher to earn some bonus achievement points!



German: The Bavarian town of **Oberammergau** is famous for its **Passion Play**. The depiction of Christ's trial and death has been re-enacted by its residents since 1633 to thank God for sparing them from the plague. However; the play is only performed every ten years and lasts about 7 hours (thankfully, with an intermission) so if you are interested you will have to wait until the next performance in 2020.

Spanish: We have the perfect soundtrack for the new season. Joan Baez's rendition of this Spanish song celebrates the colours of spring and the joy of new life. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X55H81WzZD4> ¡Disfrútalo!

PERUVIAN STUDENTS VISITED KS4 CLASSES AND PLAYED SOME VOLLEYBALL TOO!

Once again, we enjoyed the company of a visiting group of 15 and 16-year-old Peruvian students who spent the morning with us to share and compare stories of teenage life in our respective countries.



Thank you to Mr Dallaway for letting us use the new Sports Hall to play some international volleyball. Our Peruvian guests definitely had the upper hand!



FRENCH NEWS

Normandy Trip to France: Congratulations to the twenty-nine Year 8 pupils who took part in our residential trip to Normandy at the end of Term 3. Miss Tester, Mr Saunders and myself were extremely proud of the group, who made the most of every opportunity to immerse themselves in the French culture and language. It was a real joy for the staff to take such an enthusiastic, friendly and supportive group of young people and watch them flourish on their French adventure! *Here are some extracts from a diary report compiled by Reggie Barker, Annalysa Gower, Grace King and Sophia Sabal to share a flavour of the trip:*

Day One: Our first visit on arriving in Normandy was to Honfleur which is a beautiful, typical French town in Normandy. It has stunning views across the port with many different coloured buildings. There were some amazing places to buy crêpes!

We stayed at the 'Ferme du Loterot' in Cahagnes. The accommodation was amazing ranging from the food to the rooms. On the first night at our accommodation, we were served a traditional Norman meal, which included: green vegetable soup with lentils, chicken pasta, cheese and a fruit pot.

Day Two: After our daily French breakfast of pastries (pain au chocolat and croissants), cereal and juice, we set off for a packed day of activities. In the morning, we visited the Mont Saint Michel.



We visited Monsieur LeBlanc's Goat Farm. He makes cheese and sells it in the markets and in his little shop on the farm. The cheese is amazing! One of the highlights here were the baby goats - everyone loved stroking, petting, hugging and feeding them! We even got a chance to brush and hand-feed

some of the adult goats.



We finished our second day by track sledding in the Souleuvre Valley. Each kart could hold two people so we went in pairs. The scenery and views on the ride were beautiful, when we could have a moment to look at them without screaming!



For our second night's evening meal, we got to make our own pizzas by communicating with our French hosts. We were given the dough and had to roll it out before choosing our toppings and it being put in the oven.

Day Three: We started our day travelling to the Normandy coast to visit The American Cemetery in Gold Beach. Here, we remembered all of the soldiers who lost their lives in the war. It is a peaceful, quiet and respectful place which really helped us to think about who these people were and the sacrifice they made.



In Bayeux we visited the market and had to buy our own picnic lunch. We went around in groups and had to ask for everything in French. We then visited Bayeux Cathedral and, of course, the famous Bayeux tapestry.



Our final visit of the day was to Arromanches where we went to the 360-degree cinema to learn more about the D-Day landings. For our last night in France, we held a Talent Show with four group and solo acts: Baby shark, Boomerang, The Cup Song and Jealous of the Rain/A-Team. Every act was amazing and fantastic in its own way and was fun to watch! At the end of the show Amy and Kian were joint first with their amazing solos.



Day Four: Caen castle was one of the last places we visited before we started our journey home. It had beautiful views across the whole of the town. We enjoyed looking around the castle and working out what would have been what when it was a fully functioning space.

Below are some pupil comments following the trip:

One of the highlights of the trip was going to the Goat Farm. It was very interesting to learn about how the cheese was made and where it came from. We were spoken to entirely in French, and had to work out what was being said to us in order to really understand what was happening.

I enjoyed the Bayeux Tapestry because we were told the story and shown the tapestry at the same time!

We used our French in many ways, such as when we were in Honfleur we had to ask how much different items were. We also tried it out at meal times like when we had to say what we wanted on top of our homemade pizzas! Every day we were continuously learning new words.

The highlight for me was getting to know people and making new friends as well as discovering the French culture.

French Club: Many thanks to Hannah Chan, Izehi Ebhohimen and Christina Thomas who have continued to help organise activities for **French Club** this term. Our regular Year 7 members have shown great enthusiasm in doing some supported reading having chosen a French book or magazine from our mini French library set up following a very kind donation of French books from Emilie and Lisa Sones. New members are always very welcome in Term 5.

Year 11 GCSE French Revision Support: There are still some remaining 'Target 5 Foundation' and 'Target 9 Higher' Revision guides in stock (a combined price of £5 for the Reading and Writing workbooks) as well as AQA Vocabulary booklets (£2) available for purchase. Please see Miss Chong in B14 if you would like to have a look at or purchase one of the revision resources available.

Monday Revision sessions (3.15-4.00pm in B14) and boosters will continue to run in the lead up to the final GCSE exams with the GCSE French Speaking exams taking place in the first week back after Easter. **All pupils are welcome.** The lunchtime sessions run **every Monday in B4, Wednesday in B14 and B15 and Friday in B14 and B15** from 1.00-1.20pm. Pupils will also be invited to a **French Speaking Exam Preparation Revision Session on Saturday, 30th March from 9.00-11.30am.**

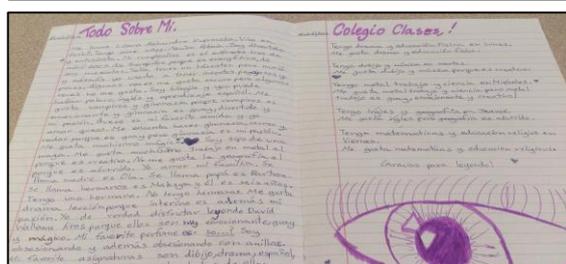


SPANISH NEWS

Year 7 pupils - a new MFL teaching force! One of the homework activities this term for the Year 7 classes was to teach their parents/carers some Spanish over the course of a weekend. They could choose any of the topics that they had covered so far. The aim was to get the family involved in their learning and to pass on knowledge and enthusiasm for learning a language! You can see a photo here of some of the fabulous work that their parents and other family members produced! Some of them were even set a test at the end of their lessons - it was very impressive to see

how pupils put into practice their own high level of expectations! The pupils were all awarded achievement points and we hope that they gave some to their families as well, or at least made them a cup of tea after the lesson!

As well as teaching friends and family, our Year 7 Spanish pupils have been learning about school timetables and subjects. Liliana Kuprowska wrote an excellent piece about herself and her school life. ¡Buen trabajo, Liliana!



GERMAN NEWS

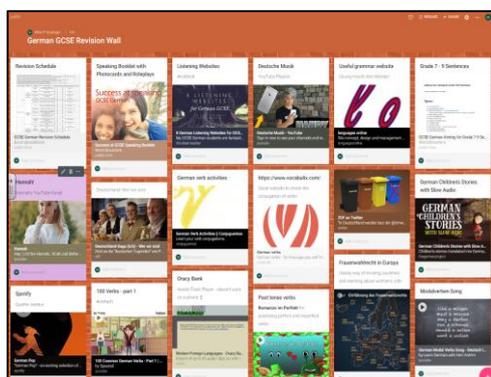
German Club: At German club we not only improve your knowledge of German but we also have fun! We do a range of activities such as **board games, quizzes and keyword challenges** on a range of topics like school and food. The fun doesn't stop there; there's also **weekly Kahoots** for everyone with prizes! So come to B5 every Monday and join German club!



Attention Year 11: I hope your revision at home is going

well and you are making good use of the **weekly revision schedule** and the **revision padlet** (link is on Edulink), as well as the wealth of resources on Memrise, Kerboodle and Activelearn.

Remember to attend the **Wednesday and Friday lunchtime intervention sessions** and the **Monday after school revision session** in B5 and B4. Our focus is now on completing plenty of conversation practice, roleplays and photocards so you are well prepared for your **speaking exams after Easter.**



Miss Chong, Miss Auzinger & Mrs Scott



News from the Geography Department

Year 11 BRAIN BOOSTERS: 15 minute geography Brain Booster sessions take place on Tuesday lunchtime from 12.55-1.10pm in A2/A10.

2nd April	Tourism and Kenya
23rd April	Eastbourne fieldwork
30th April	River flood management
7th May	Large scale water transfer scheme and local water scheme
14th May	UK Coastal landscape
21st MAY	PAPER 1 PM - PHYSICAL PAPER
5th JUNE	PAPER 2 PM - HUMAN PAPER
13th JUNE	PAPER 3 AM - DATA/FIELDWORK PAPER

Geography Brain Boosters have been running since September 2018. It's not too late to come along! These revision sessions are run by Geography teachers to help give Year 11 GCSE pupils guidance and support in their preparation for GCSE exams beginning in May 2019. Short sessions of 15 minutes run weekly, and include a hand out guide for the topic studied that week. It is important that all Year 11 pupils attend these sessions which run every Tuesday lunchtime, 12:55-1:10, in A10 and A2.



The following sessions are expected to run to support your son/daughter in the days ahead of their exams - please do support their attendance:

	Dates and times to be confirmed	Revision Activity
EASTER HOLIDAY REVISION	Thursday, 11th April - 9-11am	Paper 3 - Decision making exercise pre-release materials
Saturday session	Saturday, 18th May - 9-11am	Paper 1 revision
Half term - Saturday session	Saturday, 1st June - 9-11am	Paper 2 revision
Saturday session	Saturday, 8th June - 9-11am	Paper 3 revision

YEAR 7-8: We welcome our second cohort of Geographers who are studying Geography from February until July. In **Year 7**, we have been learning about river environments and the processes that change rivers. We have learnt about flooding in Cumbria, UK. Our next unit will be about the world and our local area where lots of map skills will be taught. In term 6, Kenya is our exciting topic with wildlife, cities, coral reefs and the Maasai tribe featuring. In **Year 8**, we are already completing our unit about the Rich World Poor World and have learnt about inequalities between countries and child labour, Fairtrade and our assessment looking at the collapse of a clothing factory in Bangladesh in April 2013. In our next unit we will learn about Brazil and then coastal environments with a field trip to the beach at Galley Hill in Term 6.

YEAR 7-9 TRIP - SOUTH OF ENGLAND SHOW - JUNE 2019: This June, we will again be taking a group of fantastic Geography pupils to the South of England Agricultural Show in Ardingly. We will be offering this opportunity to all those pupils who have been attending Geography Club on a weekly basis, plus those pupils who were successful in the Bexhill Heritage Competition. There will also be a select number of pupils who have been identified as having made really pleasing progress whilst studying the subject by their teacher in Geography. Names to be selected next term.



Pupils will spend the day at this amazing event and will be given a tour of the livestock as well as raising their awareness and understanding of the countryside, food and farming industries. This valuable learning opportunity about the countryside and land-based industries gives pupils an opportunity to get close up to the countryside and discover the importance of a sustainable, thriving rural environment.

FAIRTRADE: Fairtrade is a growing international movement which ensures that producers get: **Fair price** for their goods (that covers the cost of production and guarantees a living income); **Long term contracts** which provide real security; **Support** to gain the knowledge and skills they need to develop their businesses and increase sales.



St Richard's and the Geography department support the Fairtrade movement and once again we held a Fairtrade sale of crafts, cards, chocolate, biscuits, tea and jewellery. The £160 raised will be used to support the communities who have made the items and often helps to change lives for good as the cycle of poverty can be stopped. All children need an education to improve their life chances and when the parents can earn more money for their produce this becomes a reality.

Many thanks to the Fairtrade Champions who helped to run the stalls and promote Fairtrade awareness in St Richard's.

Remember to look out for the Fairtrade logo when you are shopping.



YEAR 10 FIELD TRIP: As part of the GCSE preparation, Year 10 Geographers will spend the day with the department visiting Eastbourne on Thursday, 4th July. 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! Letter to follow via School Comms in Term 5.

BEST RECYCLING SCHOOL IN EAST SUSSEX! Well done to the Geography Club who have won this prestigious acclaim awarded by the Green Schools Award. A representation of the Geography Club travelled to Ashford to receive the certificate on behalf of the school and were inspired to further their recycling efforts even more. Watch this space for more details.



MILK BOTTLE TOPS: Since September we have collected over 5,000 tops which were presented to John and Mary Carden by the Geography Club and Eco Reps. This is a fantastic achievement; we have saved all these plastic tops from ending up in landfill or in our oceans. The tops will be ground up to make swings, slides and other items of playground equipment. The recycling scheme and inter-form competition is continuing - please bring in your milk bottle tops and give them to your Eco Rep. Each one counts, and the money raised goes towards an MRI scanner at the Conquest Hospital.



GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT TWEETS

Keep up to date with all the latest Geography news with [@StRichardsGeog](https://twitter.com/StRichardsGeog) on Twitter!

Mrs Hoyle, Subject Leader – Geography



History Department News

WW1 Centenary Trip to Ypres

At the end of term 3 the two lucky winners of the 'Design a Memorial Plaque Competition', Marni Lippin and Millie White, travelled to Ypres with 10 other schools to explore the trenches and landscape of WW1. The trip was fully funded by the WW1 Centenary Project, backed by the Government, to help pupils in schools better understand and appreciate the significance of the First World War. The trip was fantastic and provided the girls with a meaningful insight into the lives of the soldiers, the impact of the war on families and the long term significance of the events. Whilst at the Menin Gate the girls found the name of Harry Streeter, who we had learnt about during the Remembrance lessons in November. It was very powerful and moving to see his name, inscribed on the walls, along with so many others who lost their lives in the war. Marni and Millie are now working on creating a presentation of the trip, to share their learning and experiences with the rest of the community. Of the trip Millie White wrote:



In February, I went on a Government funded trip to see the battlefields at Ypres from World War One. After winning the competition, I felt honoured to represent my school in such a prestigious event, alongside other schools in the country. The very cold and wet weekend started with team building activities, and looking at different artefacts from World War One.

After travelling through the Eurotunnel, we made our way to our first destination. It was truly inspiring to see the places where people fought and died for their country. My favourite three things that we did and witnessed on the trip were: firstly, the Passchendaele Memorial Museum. With the life size figures, and real trench dugouts, this was a great opportunity to experience what the soldiers would have experienced. My second favourite event was the Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate. This was a very moving and inspiring ceremony. My third favourite place was the Tyne Cot Memorial. To see all the gravestones, each with an individual name. Putting this on top of all the memorials we had seen over the past few days, was unbelievable. This experience was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I recommend this trip to everyone.



International Women's Day 2019

The History Club helped to ensure that International Women's Day was recognised this year at St Richard's by providing all lessons with an inspirational woman to learn about. Pupils discovered the significant and lasting impact of a number of women including Marie Curie, Emmeline Pankhurst and Eleanor Roosevelt. Thank you to the History Club, particularly Maddie Baszczak, India-Cleo Stevens and Aisling Eldridge for their efforts with this.

Key Stage 3

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 have begun their historical studies fantastically well and the department is impressed with their efforts so far. **Year 7** have enjoyed exploring the events of the Battle of Hastings, whilst **Year 8** have investigated the English Civil Wars. Next term Year 7 will begin looking at life in England during the Middle Ages, whilst Year 8 will be investigating the causes and consequences of the French Revolution.

Year 9 will be completing their Key Stage 3 learning at the end of this term, and embarking on their studies of GCSE History or Geography at the start of Term 5. Our first unit of study will be the American West, a fascinating study charting the impact of western settlement on the native Americans. Pupils are encouraged to begin preparing for this new topic by exploring some of the literature, film or documentaries suggested at the end of this article. We cannot wait to welcome you all to GCSE History.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 have begun their third unit of study, either Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, or Elizabethan England. There are numerous recommended readings and films linked to these units, some of which are listed below. We hope pupils will also be supporting their previous learning by regularly recapping and revising at home. A reminder that Year 10 exams begin on Wednesday, 1st May. Paper 1 will be Medicine in Britain and Paper 2 will be American West and Anglo-Saxon or Elizabethan England. Please make use of the ample resources that can be found in the History folder on the pupil drive. Revision should now be well under way.

Year 11 have begun revision in class, and revision sessions on Mondays and Fridays continue. It is vital that all pupils are now well underway with revision and are preparing themselves for all three exams. Revision guides will be provided before the Easter holidays and pupils are asked to

contribute £2.50 to cover the cost of these. Revision sessions during Easter will be held on Monday, 8th April at 11.15am and Thursday, 11th April at 9am. All pupils are welcome.

Supplementary Reading Lists

Year 7: Bloodline by Katy Moran or The Seeing Stone by Kevin Crossley-Holland

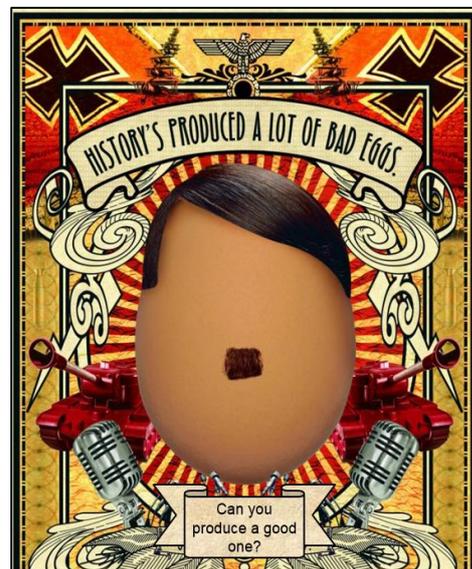
Year 8: The Red Necklace by Sally Gardner or Revolution by Jennifer Donnelly

Year 9: Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee by Dee Brown (book and film)

Year 10: Elizabeth, the Queen by Alison Weir

Egg Project Competition

Choose a significant person in history and make them in hard-boiled egg form. Write 250 words or more explaining why they are significant. Write a positive contribution – we only want good eggs. The 1st prize is a large Easter egg and chocolate prizes for runners up. Please pass entries to Mrs Avery in All by Friday, 26th April.



Mrs R Campbell, Subject Leader for History (mrsccampbellr@strichardscc.com)

PRODUCT DESIGN DEPARTMENT

Follow the Product Design department on Twitter at: https://twitter.com/strichards_dt

Budding Designers in Key Stage 3

Pupils have been working hard in Textiles, producing quality products for a client of their choice. In **Year 7**, they have made drawstring bags using fat quarters of materials and learnt about iterative design and designing for clients. Art movements are studied to inspire cushions in **Year 8**, as they learn how to develop and continuously improve products. By **Year 9** they become independent designers, making gadget holders for key target markets, whilst looking at existing products which have planned obsolescence within their design.

Year 11: have a planned programme of revision and must attend all catch ups/revision sessions available. Use the GCSEpods,

technologystudent.com. In particular download and complete the sample exam papers available on technologystudent.com, as these are a fantastic resource.

Mrs Robertson, Product Design Subject Leader



ART DEPARTMENT

Our **Year 11** pupils have two weeks left before their GCSE exam. They are all working with a strong sense of purpose and the Saturday workshops we are running have proved invaluable. Both our **Year 10** groups are working very well too. Art and Design are working on 'Fragments/Architecture', and the quality of drawing and design is superb with each page being beautifully embellished. Fine Art are working on observational drawing and Jim Dine and they enjoyed a superb workshop with the artist, Mark Curryer, with fantastic results. They have now produced a huge canvas painting of the pier which will be delivered this week. **Year 9** are focused and enjoying the new surrealism topic looking at Di Chirico, Dali, Matisse and Kahlo. Fine Art are producing beautifully detailed quarter portraits. **Year 7** and **Year 8** are designing their Gaudi frames and fantasy teapots respectively. Fine Art are producing richly embellished paintings inspired by sketchbook work.



Peace Poster Competition: Congratulations to Evlampia Zacon who came second in the Bexhill Lions Club Peace Poster competition. The winners were announced at the Lions Convention in Arundel on Saturday, 2nd February and for the first time, the winning pupils and parents were invited to attend the convention to hear the news of the winner.

Rosewood Competition: Congratulations also to the following pupils who came first, second and third in the Rosewood Building Competition:

- Winner - £100 WHSmith voucher - Samantha Zembrak, Year 8
- 2nd place - £50 WHSmith voucher - Natalie Collinson, Year 8
- 3rd place - £25 WHSmith voucher - Matilda Hawkins, Year 9

Our pupils' artwork now has pride of place on the Rosewood Park Building hoardings just outside Little Common. The winning pupils were invited down to the development for a photography opportunity with their design.

Thank you to Millie White's family who very kindly donated a wonderful set of novelty teapots to help inspire our Year 8 pupils.



Draw Me In Exhibition

Year 10 Fine Art pupils have been working hard on a large-scale collaborative acrylic painting of Eastbourne Pier which is over 2m long. The amazing artwork will be revealed at **Draw Me In** Annual Schools Exhibition at the Towner Gallery, Eastbourne at the beginning of April. **Draw Me In** looks at what the gallery's collection can teach everyone about drawing from a more progressive perspective. It includes works by twelve women artists including: Ursula Mommens, Elizabeth McGill, Elisabeth Frink and Ceal Floyer and St Richard's Year 10 fine artists, alongside work

from nearly 50 local groups, involving 2,000 children and young people. Family and friends are invited to the Opening Party and exhibition on Thursday, 4th April 2019, 3.00-6.00pm. The exhibition will be open for everyone to enjoy from Friday, 5th April to Sunday, 2nd June 2019. For more information please visit: www.townereastbourne.org.uk/exhibition/draw-me-in/

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Wyllie, our trainee teacher from Brighton University who has worked incredibly hard in the department and produced lovely work with the pupils. On behalf of the department, I would like to wish Mr Wyllie well in his future teaching career.

Thank you and keep creating!

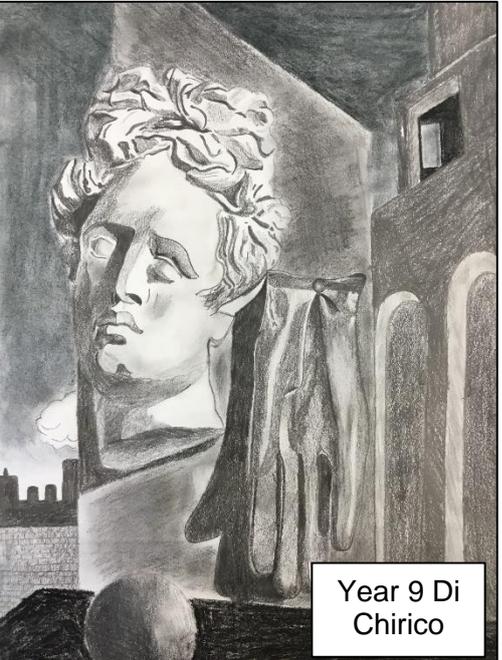
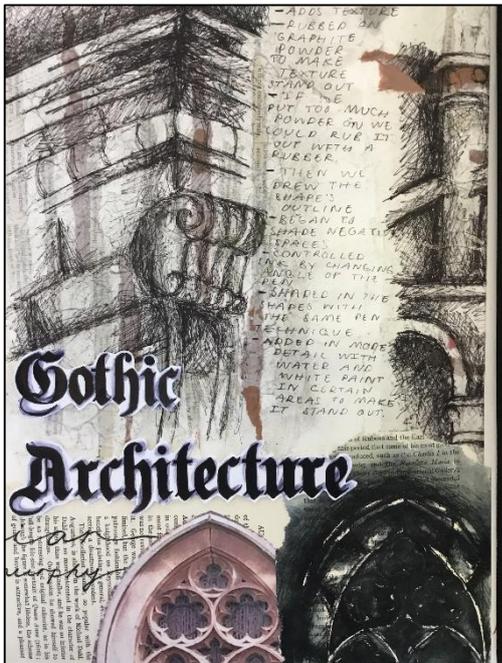
Mr Peachment, Subject Leader - Art



Gaudi inspired sculpture



Year 10 Self Portraits



Performing Arts Department

This term has seen stunning performances from our pupils in and around our community as you will read below. It's also that time of year when we begin rehearsals for the school musical and so there is a lot of excitement in the air. Make sure you save the dates (9th, 11th and 12th July) for Bugsy Malone; it promises to be a cracker!

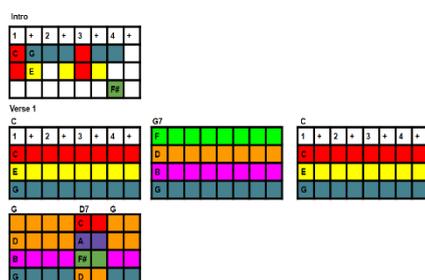
Events

Ash Wednesday Services: The orchestra and choir were both involved in the recent Ash Wednesday services in school. We played beautiful hymns called 'Ashes' and 'Unless a Grain of Wheat'. All three services were particularly reflective and prayerful. As the pupils were led into the hall to receive their ashes, the choir sang some *Taize*.... 'Jesus Remember Me'.

Some of the choir were also involved in the annual Deanery Meeting last week. They sang beautifully for about 14 Priests and 5 Head teachers from our feeder primary schools. Well done to all involved in both of the above.



Fat Tuesday: Every year, Hastings Old Town comes alive with all different kinds of bands, duos, solo acts, choirs and instrumental ensembles. The festival of music is called 'Fat Tuesday' and kicks off on the Friday night and continues through until Shrove Tuesday, delighting us with non-stop talent and exciting musical acts. Mrs Byrne was involved this year and was excited to find out that the band that followed her 'The Coleens,' consisted of some pupils from our very own St Richard's. What a fantastic band they are! They have also been asked to play at a number of events including; Hope Festival, Picnic by the Lake and Little Gate Farm. Well done to Pearl Herriott and Angelina Tadros.



Cross Curricular Working: We've had 3 fantastic sessions working with Dr Durkin and her Year 7 scientists this term, learning about the cycle of fifths, octaves, chords and melody by using Boomwhackers. These brightly coloured tubes are proving a valuable addition to our instrument collection as they help make clear the theoretical side of music in a fun and engaging way.

We've been ably supported by some of our Year 9 musicians who helped to work out how to play 'The Elements Song' and to develop a new notation system using the Boomwhackers. It's been a great effort from all

and we hope to do more collaborative work with the scientists in the future.



Ruby Colley and Hayley Savage: We were treated to a wonderful set from Ruby Colley, violinist, and Hayley Savage, singer/songwriter, recently as part of our Friday Night Live club. Hayley leads our Campfire Songs and Friday Night Live clubs where pupils have the opportunity to write their own music, form bands, perform and make great music. Ruby gave us an amazing demonstration of the use of pedals with her electric violin to create new music with which we were all enthralled. You can hear their performances in a series of Tweets @SRCCperformers.

Ruby is available for violin lessons here at St Richard's on a Friday at the end of the school day and Hayley teaches acoustic guitar throughout the day on a Friday. If you would like to spend more time specialising in these areas do collect a registration form from the music

department.

Visit to Steinway Hall – 21st February 2019: Two of our pupils were lucky enough to take part in a masterclass at Steinway Hall over half-term. Many thanks to our piano teacher, Helen Ridout, for providing this account:

Three schools were invited to take part in this particular day of piano workshops and a tour around Steinway Hall in Central London: Tunbridge Wells Girls School, Redmaids School near Bristol and St Richard's Catholic



College. Two pupils from St Richard's attended - Alastair Rey and Solomon Dillon, Alastair is working towards taking his Grade 8 ABRSM exam next term and Solomon Grade 6. We were met by Keith Glazebrook, the organiser, and shown into an impressive studio with two 9 foot Steinway grand pianos - Steinway have an artist's scheme of around 2,000 pianists worldwide, including Lang Lang and Stephen Hough. We were introduced to Charles Owen, a performer and teacher, who would be taking the workshops. We were split into three groups and it was St Richard's turn to go first. Solomon played a Grade 6 piece called *Tugela Rail* by Darius Brubeck (son of jazz pianist, Dave Brubeck) - he played really well after taking some time to get used to the dynamic range possible on such an amazing instrument. Charles worked on some difficult rhythmic aspects of the piece and Solly's playing improved in a very short time. Alastair then played *Reflets dans l'eau* by Debussy - a technically demanding piece with lots of fluid patterns and a recurring theme. Charles was very familiar with it and worked mainly on the pedalling which makes a huge difference to the clarity of sound - he used the technique of flutter-pedalling which is using the pedal in short bursts rather than a blanket approach. Alastair responded really well - a fantastic, if challenging, experience for both pianists!

Keith then took us on a tour of the showroom and gave us a brief history of Steinway. The company was originally founded in 1853 in Manhattan, USA by German-born Henry Steinweg - he spent 30 years perfecting his design and it has stood the test of time with very few changes. Steinway also make Essex and Boston pianos to the same exacting standards. The most expensive piano in the showroom cost over £200,000 - it was a commission and had gold embossed ornamentation. A basic black model D costs around £75,000. We were also shown Steinway's latest innovation - a player-piano system called 'Spirio'... The first piano was developed in the early 18th Century by Cristofori - its predecessor was the harpsichord. Both are keyboard instruments, but the strings are plucked on the harpsichord whereas the strings are hit by felted hammers on the piano making it a more percussive instrument capable of a wider dynamic range.

Downstairs we visited the Steinway workshop and chatted to one of the technicians - they are incredibly skilled and repair piano actions, build new pianos as well as tuning them. The wood used for soundboards comes from a forest managed by Steinway. Keith then asked us to try and compare two pianos, one of which is used for live performance and the other for recording. Alastair and Solomon both got it right - the volume of sound on the performance instrument was phenomenal. The instruments they hire out to visiting artists have serial numbers and artists will often ask for a particular piano.

It was a great day - we all learnt something and enjoyed it immensely. Steinway run a scheme called the 'All Steinway School' which not only benefits the school by having superb instruments to play on but also offers wonderful opportunities for young musicians. www.steinway.com/education/institutions/all-steinway-schools

Bugsy Malone Auditions: We are very excited to announce the cast list for this year's show, BUGSY MALONE! Huge congratulations to Arthur Pepper, Ryan Segal, Kitty McCarron and Faith Simon for scooping the central roles, and further congratulations to the other 70 pupils who will make up the cast. We had a record number of pupils auditioning this year and the standard was so high! It took us a long time to choose the cast and we wish we could have included all 120 auditioned. If you weren't successful this year, please come and get involved in other Performing Arts events and speak to Mrs Knight about a role in the production team and back stage crew. To all cast members - please keep an eye out for rehearsal notices, beginning very soon!



Year 11 Drama GCSE Performances: On February 28th the Year 11's completed their final GCSE performance and acted out two extracts from a variety of plays in front of an AQA examiner. Ms Whelan and Mrs Dunster were so impressed with their performances, especially under such pressure! Well done to all, it was a fantastic end to their St Richard's acting journey.

Time to Dance: The Annual Time to Dance Festival was held at White Rock Theatre, Hastings on Wednesday, 13th February. This year the theme was 'Sounds.' The first piece performed by the Junior Team entitled "El Día de los Muertos." Day of the Dead is about honouring friends and family who have left us;



exploring the sound of Mexico. The second piece performed by the senior team was entitled, 'The Sound of Silence.' Based on a true story and the theme of sound, young girl Paige Hunter writes letters of hope to stop people committing suicide. We held a moment of silence for those who have sadly taken their own life. This was a joint collaboration of choreography by Mrs Knight and the senior team. The Boys' Dance Company were delighted to close the whole show with their piece, 'We shall remember them.' After finding letters they take us on a journey of memories, following in the footsteps of their grandfathers. As part of their Silver Arts Award: Louise Kavanagh, Kacey Wolecki, Natalia Szelest and Isabella Zillwood have choreographed a piece entitled 'Enchanted Forest' for Chantry Community Primary. They received an outstanding reception from the audience.

Trinity Laban: The Dance Company welcomed Trinity Laban's Centre for Advanced Dance training who held a workshop on Friday, 1st March. The Centre for Advanced Training (CAT) at Trinity Laban is an innovative scheme offering young people with exceptional talent and potential in dance the opportunity to access high quality dance training. The programme of classes provides intensive and rigorous dance training taught by a highly experienced team of professional dance teachers and artists.

CAT is part of a national programme funded and developed by the Department for Education, Music and Dance Scheme. More information on the scheme can be found via the following link:

<https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/dance/centre-for-advanced-training>.

Thirty pupils, members of St Richard's Dance Company and BTEC Performing Arts Class took part in the workshop and they have all been invited to attend the audition day at Trinity. We currently have 5 boys attending the CAT scheme which they thoroughly enjoy.



Music Showcase: We shared a wonderful evening of music making this term with pupils participating from all year groups offering solos and small ensembles alongside our choir and orchestra. Our newest ensemble, The Jazz Saints, also took to the stage and it was wonderful to see the pure enjoyment on the faces of all the performers across the evening as they shared their love of music with each other and the audience. We have received some lovely feedback from audience members who commented on the obvious joy on the faces of the performers. Thank you to all who supported the event and for your generous donations towards the purchase of musical equipment.

Future Events

Hofesh Shechter Dance Company: We are delighted that Hofesh Shechter Dance Company will be working with pupils in May. A ground-breaking world famous dance company founded in 2008, will be working with pupils from Year 7 to 10. We will also welcome the Ascension dance company.

Trips

Swan Lake: On Wednesday our BTEC Performing Arts and Dance Company pupils attended a performance of Matthew Bourne's new adaptation of Swan Lake at the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury. Collecting over 30 international accolades including an Olivier Award and three Tonys on Broadway, the original shattered convention, turned tradition upside down and took the dance world by storm.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time: Pupils from Years 9 to 11 were taken to London's West End to see the stage phenomenon that is 'Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' - a physical piece based on the famous novel by Mark Haddon. The show is set inside the mind of an autistic boy called Christopher and as we travel through the story, the cast and the stage come to life both technically and physically to treat the audience to a truly magical sensory experience. The Year 10 and 11 pupils are required to write a review on the show as part of their drama exam, so we are delighted they have had the opportunity to see such a fantastic piece of theatre. We'll be sure to include some photos of this trip in the next newsletter!

Agreed at Glyndebourne: The music department had a wonderful day out at Glyndebourne this term with over 30 pupils joining us to see *Agreed*. The opera, written by Howard Moody, involved professional singers and musicians alongside amateur performers from the local community. A highlight for many of us was hearing and seeing the Kora which is an African instrument much like the harp. It was fascinating to hear how the composer had used the different timbre of the instruments to transport to the land in which the piece was set.



Move It: The boys and the girls' dance companies and pupils from Year 9 Performing Arts and BTEC Dance attended Move It at London Excel. Move It is everything dance under one roof offering the pupils a chance to take part in workshops throughout the day, watch professional performances, as well as shopping and meeting students from professional dance colleges. Highlights this year for the pupils included the chance to meet Flawless, Lois Spence Dancers from The Greatest Dancer and Britain's Got Talent to name a few.



Drama Clubs: Ms Whelan's Year 7 drama club are exploring improvisation through games and fun drama activities - they are loving creating comic characters and are blossoming as young performers!

Mrs Dunster's Advanced Drama Club members are very busy preparing for the Easter Service and have devised a moving and poignant physical piece inspired and accompanied by the song 'My Salvation' by Gabrielle Aplin. The piece also includes a poem written by the Drama Club members; we hope you all enjoy it.

Achievements and Results

Great Big Dance Off: The Dance Company competed in the Southern Regional Heats at the Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall, with their pieces from Time to Dance; 'El Día de los Muertos', The Sound of Silence and 'We Shall Remember Them'. It was yet another fantastic opportunity for the pupils to dance in a professional theatre, working with a professional sound and lighting crew, competing against 21 other senior schools. The Senior group, made up of mainly KS3 pupils, were entered into the KS4/5 category competing against GCSE and A level students from different schools and colleges across the South East. The only teams to represent Sussex, we were placed 4th and were delighted to receive a dance recognition award.



Alastair Rey: Alastair has been going from strength to strength with his piano playing over the past year and has recently been very busy. During February half-term he took part in a masterclass at Steinway Hall in London and has followed that up this term with huge success at the Hastings Festival. Alastair's festival achievements include the following:

- Winning the under 16's Piano Recital Class and age 15 Piano Class.
- Piano Silver Medal
- 2nd place in the Piano Sonata Under 16 Class

Alastair was also invited to and performed at the final festival concert at the White Rock. Helen Ridout, Alastair's piano teacher, is thrilled with his results and commented on how confident and assured he looked throughout the classes.

Anyone interested in learning to play the piano with Helen Ridout can collect a registration form from the music department.



Millie White: On Saturday, 2nd March, Millie competed in the 1066 heat for the World Cabaret Performer. This is a new competition for dancers aged 13-18. Three winners go through to the finals in October, with the winning competitors from the other heats worldwide. Millie was chosen as one of the winners of the heat, and will be competing against some of the best dancers from the UK as well as qualifiers from other countries around the world.

Throughout the first two weeks of March, Hastings Musical Festival hosts its annual competition. Millie danced and sang in 27 classes, culminating in the



Silver Medal Dance Class. For this, dancers have to have placed first, second or third in either their Ballet or Character solo and be aged 12-14. All the dancers who qualify for this class must perform their Ballet solo, then their Character. To win the Silver Medal, dancers must achieve a mark of 87 or more; Millie won the class with a mark of 90.

Evie Dawes: The Performing Arts have been a big feature for Evie so far this year with some great results. Evie passed her Grade 5 Singing exam with distinction and has achieved a number of successes in dance.

Evie had an amazing experience participating in the Champion of Champions at Blackpool for Modern and Tap Dance, as well as taking part in the Hastings Musical Festival where she gained four 1st places, three 2nd and a 3rd for her dance solos along with many other top 3 places for duets, trios and groups. She was also awarded the Adjudicators' Award for personality. In addition, Evie was also awarded three gold medals, two silver and a bronze for her solo dances along with placings for duets, trios and groups at the Tunbridge Wells Dance Festival. Congratulations to Evie for her continued success.



Congratulations also go to the following Dance Company pupils including: Amelia Allen, Larissa Mayal Napier, Saffy Balaban and Louise Kavanagh who have participated in a variety of Dance Festivals this term including Eastbourne, Tunbridge Wells, Hastings and South Theatre. Elysia Hough was awarded the Byfield Trophy for the highest aggregate mark across seven solos at the Eastbourne Festival.

Many St Richard's Catholic College pupils were also involved in the **Hastings School of Contemporary Dance Show**, 'Beyond Words'. Mrs Knight and Mrs Byrne were delighted to watch their show and, in particular, see former pupil, Molly Casares, who choreographed several of the pieces. Congratulations to the following pupils: Freya Lipsham, Betsie Field, Daisy Crabb, Eliza Brown, Ella Howe, Mattie Hawkins, Rose Lipsham, Grace McMillian, Libby Moore and Taylor Potter.

On Saturday, 9th March, Saffy Balaban was invited to perform on the main stage at Move It in Excel London. Saffy performed with her dance company - SYD B in front of 2000+ people. Saffy commented, '*We performed a contemporary dance based on the woods scene from Hansel and Gretel. It was a fun and interesting opportunity*'.



We have many dedicated musicians at St Richard's including Crystalina Gemmell-Smith, who not only plays the violin but recently won her class in the Eastbourne Festival with her piano performance. We were thrilled to hear her play in class and see the trophy which she received.



Congratulations to all pupils who have been successful in recent Performing Arts and music exams and festivals. It takes continued effort and hard work to achieve success.

Ms Mason, Performing Arts Subject Leader

Prep Club & Prep Club Plus

Need somewhere quiet to complete homework? Why not come to **Prep Club** one or two nights a week?

Open 3.15 - 5.00pm, Monday to Thursday in 'C' Block ICT Suite. **Give it a try!**
Supervised by a member of staff.

See what a difference it makes to your evening by completing homework in school rather than at home.

Prep Club Plus takes place in BICT from 3.15-4.15pm and is for pupils with SEN.

The library is also open until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday with computer facilities available as well as plenty of books!

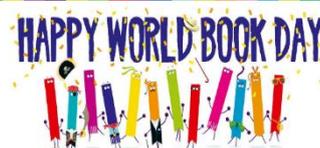
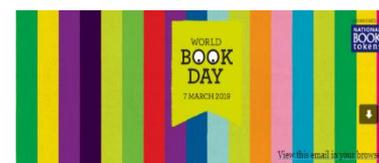
Library News

The 1066 Book Award 2019 was held here at St Richard's on Wednesday, with pupils from other local secondary schools joining us to celebrate the winning book. Pupils from St Richard's have been busy reading and submitting reviews – well done to Ann Raju of 7O, the first to finish all four books and complete her reviews!



Our next book award will be the CILIP Carnegie Book Award Shadowing, which is due to commence after Easter. The shortlist has only just been released, but if your child would be interested to join us in reading the selected titles, permission letters will be available from the Library after Easter.

World Book Day was celebrated this year by all Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils collecting a World Book Day token in their Library lessons, and to older pupils by application. Remember to use your token by 31st March 2019! You may either exchange your token for a special World Book Day book, or get £1.00 off any book worth more than £2.99 in a bookshop. Additionally, pupils heard a story of suspense over the whole six lessons of the day, and Year 7 pupils treated us to a fantastic array of book character costumes; some staff even joined in too! In the afternoon, the author Kate O'Hearn led two workshop

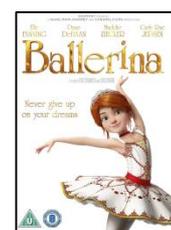


sessions on creative writing for aspiring authors in the library – enthralling them with ways of keeping your extended writing going, and tales of seeing a werewolf on a train!



Film Club News: February's film was 'Ballerina' – a fun tale of adventures in Paris, the City of Light, with two young orphans who dream of making it in the big city. Laughs, thrills and spills galore – and really not the 'girly' movie you think it will be!

Suitable for all ages, and a really fun watch. Lower school pupils are still welcome to join Film Club – ask for a permission slip in the Library.

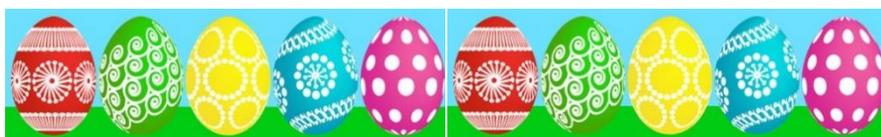


Quote of the Month: *'There are no bad authors for children because every child is different. A hackneyed, worn-out idea isn't hackneyed and worn out to them. This is the first time the child has encountered it. Do not discourage children from reading because you feel they are reading the wrong thing. Fiction you do not like is the gateway to other books you may prefer, and not everyone has the same taste as you.'* Neil Gaiman, an award winning author whose work includes novels, comic books, audio theatre and film, including the forthcoming 'Good Omens', co-written with Terry Pratchett.



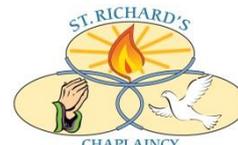
The St Richard's librarians wish you all a very Happy Easter – remember to buy a book – it lasts longer than an egg!

Ms Tocknell, Librarian





Chaplaincy News



The season of Lent is now in full swing, and both pupils and staff are involved in a number of Lenten activities. During Lent we are encouraged to focus on three main areas. The first is to give more time to prayer, perhaps five minutes each day. The second is to fast. This could be not consuming a favourite food or drink (or even spending less time on Facebook or Twitter!), to remind us not to become too dependent on material comforts. The third is to help those in need, making some practical and real effort to support people suffering the effects of poverty, whether overseas or here at home. If we are able to put these three areas into practice, then Lent becomes a season of getting closer to God so that, when we reach Holy Week and Easter, the most solemn and important time in the Church's year, we will be well prepared and ready to receive the Risen Lord. May I wish you every blessing on your Lenten journey.



The CAFOD - Lent Campaign: Once again, pupils and staff took part in a sponsored walk for CAFOD after school on Wednesday, walking up Galley Hill, along the beach and the sea front and stopping off at St Mary Magdalene's church before returning to school. Sponsor money raised from the walk will go to the CAFOD



Lent Campaign and supporting victims of Cyclone Idai. In addition, pupils brought in items of food for the Bexhill Foodbank which they carried on their walk to give to Foodbank staff at St Mary Magdalene's. In this way, St Richard's helped those in need both at home and away.

Holy Week/Easter Services in school: Pupils and staff are busy preparing for the end of term services that will take place on the morning of Friday, 5th April. The services this year will focus on the theme of salvation, and how through the Passion of Christ He has released us from the burden of sin, and given us the chance at eternal life with Him. Hopefully, this will provide a good preparation for the liturgies in Holy Week itself.

Year Group and Form Masses and Services: Year 10 had a meaningful service on the theme of community. Pupils and tutors were left with a very clear message that although we can feel alone at times, by being part of this community, the Catholic church, we will always have Jesus by our side. Not only that but in our own small community here in St Richard's as they begin to look forward to their final year in St Richard's, Year 10 can rely on each other. 7F and 7L had their first Form service celebrated by Fr Rajesh and this proved to be a very memorable one with some lovely singing and music from the two forms. My thanks to the Liturgy Reps and tutors for their help in organising these services. Thanks also to Mrs Byrne and Ms Mason for their support.

Friday Morning Mass for staff and pupils: Early morning Mass at 8.10am on Fridays continues to be celebrated in room A3. Staff, pupils and parents are very welcome to attend. If you have a special prayer intention that you would like to be included at Mass, perhaps for someone who is unwell or for someone who has died, then do let Jo know.

Good Shepherd and Secondary Pilgrimage: Coming up in Term 5 and 6 will be two pilgrimages with our Diocese. The first is the Diocesan Secondary Pilgrimage to Arundel Cathedral and a mixture of Liturgy Reps from Years 8, 9 and 10 will be selected to represent the school. Following this, Year 7 Liturgy Reps will represent St Richard's at the annual Good Shepherd service in Worth Abbey. Both events will be led by Bishop Richard and are opportunities to meet and pray with all the other Catholic schools in our Diocese.

Liturgy Reps: The next Liturgy Reps meeting will take place next term. Sincere thanks to the Liturgy Reps from all year groups who have gone the extra mile for the Chaplaincy events in the school, it is a pleasure to have your help, ideas and enthusiasm.

Fairtrade Activities: Fairtrade Fortnight was full and productive. With the support of Mrs Massey in the Geography department, Mrs Ward held her Traidcraft Stall raising over £100.



Our annual Easter egg raffle and chocolate stall was run throughout the week with great enthusiasm by the Fairtrade Champions. Congratulations to the winners seen below being presented with their prizes by Fairtrade Champion, Anakha Paul. Thanks to all who supported.



There was also the annual Fairtrade bake-off run by the MFL department. We had two tables laden down with baked goodies all using Fairtrade products. Well done to the winners and all who helped to raise almost £100. My thanks to the MFL department for their support of Fairtrade. Please see MFL news for more details.

Finally, we ended our Fairtrade Fortnight with a Fashion Show of fairly traded clothes which was organised in conjunction with Bexhill Town Fairtrade. The evening began with a talk from Fairtrade clothing ambassador, Barbara Wilson, owner of "Love that Stuff"; all the clothes were provided by her for the show. It was great to do something with the wider community for Fairtrade Fortnight and we hope to repeat this event next year. My thanks to Jack Doherty, Chair of Bexhill Town Fairtrade, for his help in organising this event. In total the events for Fairtrade Fortnight raised over £350. Well done to all involved.

Rome 2020: Our bi-annual pilgrimage trip to Rome takes place in February 2020 and is open to all those who will be in Year 9,10 and 11 from September 2019. I will be in assemblies before the Easter holiday to launch this. Places will be limited so please come and collect a letter and sign up for this wonderful trip.

With very best wishes for a Spirit filled and holy Easter,

Jo Doyle

(Lay Chaplain)

☎ - 01424 713107 ext 126, ✉ - missdoylej@strichardscs.com



Seneca – Revision and Homework Platform

All pupils and teachers now have free access to Seneca - a revision and homework platform making studying more fun. Seneca is an interactive way to learn official course content. Their web app covers 150+ exam board specific courses condensing what pupils need to know for their exams. The software is able to identify gaps in learning. For instance, when you get a question wrong, the platform will repeat the topic in different formats and their smart algorithm has proven to make pupils remember topics 2x faster. Seneca is totally free for pupils, teachers and parents. You can sign up via <https://www.senecalearning.com/>

PE Department News

Netball

The **Year 7** netball team attended the Hastings and Rother Schools' Netball Tournament on Monday, 11th March. The event was held at St Leonards Academy with eight local schools attending. The girls' strength as a team grew as the tournament progressed, with all of the group stage matches ending in a close result. They finished second in their group, placing them against the winning team of group 2 - Battle Abbey, for the semi-final. The team worked tirelessly throughout, but conceded 2 goals, which saw them through to the 3rd/4th place playoff. The girls' final match saw a triumph against Claverham, winning 5-1, seeing the girls secure 3rd place.



Our **Year 10** netball team attended the annual Hastings and Rother Schools tournament, held at St Leonards Academy on Tuesday, 19th March. The girls worked hard, building upon individual strengths to overcome their tough opponents. The girls finished 4th and are looking forward to building upon this result in Year 11.

Girls' Football

Year 7 and Year 8 & 9 6-a-side Teams

The Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 6-a-side teams played a warm up match in preparation for the Area Football tournament at Claverham on 26th March. Both teams played very well, resulting in two wins. The Year 7 team won 3-1 and the Year 8 and 9 team won 2-0. Well done to all involved! Results of the tournament will be published in the next newsletter.

Year 7 Team: Florence Garvey, Cicely Holmes, Kunashe Makwiramiti, Faith McMorran, Atheena Shaji and Ashlyn Thomas.

Year 8&9 Team: Abigail Dolding, Anna Gkertz, Jessica Mccann, Erin Todd, Emily Adjei, India Mccann, Olivia Zheng and Beatrice White.

U16 (Year 10+11) Football

The U16 girls' team played Downsland School from Hassocks on Friday, 8th March at St Richard's in the Sussex County Shield. The girls played extremely well, on a difficult pitch, having 80% possession and were unfortunate to concede two quality goals from an exceptional player on the opposition team. Our pressure finally paid off with a super solo goal from Lucy Boreham to make it 2-1. The girls continued to press and create lots of chances but couldn't find the net and were caught on the break and conceded a third goal. The determination, effort and support of each other was outstanding and I was extremely proud of the team. Well done, girls!

The team were: Joyce Busuego, Jade Coleman, Lexie Coleman, Janel Maneclang, Abbie Pinnington, Amber Pisani-Cleland, Maddie Baszczak, Erika Body, Lucy Boreham, Olimpia Croucher, Izehi Ebhohimen and Jasmine Moulding.



Girls' Football

Jasmine Moulding has been representing Sussex Schools and Lewes FC U16's. She most recently played for Sussex vs Surrey in a very close match where Sussex battled for a very hard fought 2-2 draw. Jasmine suffered a heavy blow to the head towards the end of the game, but fortunately she passed a HIA which allowed her to play for Lewes FC U16's vs

Mile Oak in the final of the Sussex FA Challenge Cup the next day. This ended in a resounding 7-2 win and completes part 2 of a potential treble for Lewes, having already won the league.

Gymnastics has arrived!

Classes from Years 7, 8 and 9 have enjoyed the opportunity to take part in gymnastics lessons throughout this term. A special thank you to Miss Easton: her hard work in securing the additional funding from the Healthy Schools Grant, means we have been able to invest in new gymnastics mats, enabling groups to be the first to enjoy gymnastics within curriculum lessons for over 20 years.



Leadership group working with others through team building activities

The Year 9 leadership class have been putting their leadership knowledge into practice. Working alongside fellow pupils, they were set numerous challenges which required teamwork, communication, delegation and problem solving. The pupils overcame challenges, motivating each other to succeed. The leadership groups continue to enhance their skill set through their ongoing work with the primary school events. Their assistance with the high 5 netball and football events have been invaluable whilst showcasing one of the many opportunities the pupils of St Richard's have available to them.

Sports Hall Athletics Final

Our Year 8 boys Sports Hall athletics team progressed through the Hastings Area competition to reach the Sussex School Games Finals held at Tanbridge House in Horsham. They performed incredibly well and finished in 4th place out of all the secondary schools in Sussex. The team should be proud of themselves.



Boys' Basketball

The Year 7 boys have started their first basketball season with an emphatic win in our sports hall against William Parker. The boys used their large squad to full effect with everyone playing an important role in the 14 - 6 win.

Year 8 had a great start to the season winning both matches. Their first match was a 24-13 win against St Leonards Academy and their second was a 38-15 win against William Parker. The Year 8 team have a particularly good work ethic that should be applauded. They worked so hard for each other in both games and,

as a result, they have proved very difficult to break down in defence. All boys chipped in with points. Finley Dorling-Parkes has been on fire with multiple lay-ups in both games and a big three pointer in the first match.



as a result, they have proved very difficult to break down in defence. All boys chipped in with points. Finley Dorling-Parkes has been on fire with multiple lay-ups in both games and a big three pointer in the first match.



The Year 9 boys have also started their Basketball season with a 100% winning streak. They beat St Leonards

Academy 31-9 and Claverham 17-16 in their incredibly tight second game. Charlie Storrs was on hand to hold his nerve from the free throw line: it was his extra point that ended up being the difference between the two teams at the end of the match.

The **Year 10** team started their basketball season with a very strong performance in a 43-16 win against The Hastings Academy. In their second match against William Parker they went 8 points down in the first quarter. However, they put in an impressive display for the remainder of the match, but could not fully recover from the deficit. This match finished 24-18 to William Parker.



The **Year 11** boys have won one match and lost one so far this season. Their first match proved a frustrating one as they lost 15-12 in a tricky away fixture against Bexhill Academy. They showed strong resilience and bounced back in their second match with a clear 18-5 win against Robertsbridge Community College.



South East Sussex District Football

Franz Cuison and Dominic Corbin are members of the South East Sussex boys' U13 football team. They have had an incredible season and have made it to the National Finals. This will be held on Friday, 10th May at the Bet365 Stadium in Stoke City. They won a tightly contested game against a very good Croydon team consisting mostly of academy players from several premier league teams. The whole team including both boys showed true grit and determination to beat a technically superior team. This is the first time in 25 years that a South East Sussex District team have qualified for the National Finals.



Equestrian Competition Report

Two members of the St Richard's Equestrian Team took part in the Inter-School National Eventers' Challenge qualifier on Saturday, 9th March at Petley Equestrian Centre.

Emma Folwell rode in the 90 and 100cm classes over a course of 18 challenging mixed jumps. She produced two very fluid and carefully ridden clear rounds to come 2nd in the 90cm and win the 100cm, qualifying for the National Finals at both heights, a great achievement. The finals will take place over 25-27th May at the Hickstead All England Showground; good luck, Emma!

Melissa Marsden rode in the 70cm class, again over a course of challenging mixed jumps. Another good round, but sadly an unfortunate error at the end of the course kept her out of the placing this time.



Sports Hall

The new sports hall has been a big hit with the pupils. It has hosted a variety of PE clubs every lunch time and after school. It has also been used for Primary School lessons and tournaments, as well as many basketball fixtures already this term. The photograph shows a Year 7 class in a volleyball lesson.

This is just one of the several new activities now on the PE curriculum. We look forward to the trampolines arriving next term!

Mr Dallaway, Subject Leader of PE

P.E. DEPARTMENT CLUBS/PRACTICES (Term 5 2019)				
	Before School (8:00-8:30am)	Lunchtime	Afterschool 1	Afterschool 2
MONDAY		TABLE TENNIS All Years Mr Dallaway (Dance Studio) FOOTBALL Year 9 Mrs Harker (Sports Hall) BOYS' BASKETBALL Year 7 Mr Feery (Gym)	BADMINTON All Years Ms Gill (Sports Hall)	GIRLS' RUGBY All Years Mrs Harker/Miss Easton (Field) – to finish in May STOOLBALL All Years Mrs Harker/Miss Easton (Field) – to start in May
TUESDAY		TABLE TENNIS All Years Mr Bligh (Dance Studio) FOOTBALL Year 10 Mr Dallaway (Sports Hall) BOYS' BASKETBALL Years 8 & 9 Mr Feery (Gym)	GCSE/BTEC SPORT Intervention Year 11 Mr Bligh	BOYS' BASKETBALL Year 7 Mr Feery (Gym)
WEDNESDAY	FOOTBALL Years 7-9 Mr Dallaway (Sports Hall) – to finish in May ATHLETICS/ FITNESS CLUB All Years Mr Dallaway to start in May	FOOTBALL Year 11 Mr Dallaway (Sports Hall) GIRLS' BASKETBALL Year 7 Mr Feery (Gym)	GIRLS' BASKETBALL All Years Mrs Harker/Miss Easton (Sports Hall) to finish in May GIRLS' ROUNDERS Years 7-9 Mrs Harker/Miss Easton (Field)	BOYS' BASKETBALL Year 8 Mr Feery (Gym) CRICKET All Years Mr Dallaway (Gym/Field)
THURSDAY	CRICKET All Years Mr Dallaway (Gym)	FITNESS CLUB Year 10 & 11 Girls Miss Easton (Fitness Room) BOYS' BASKETBALL Year 10 Mr Feery (Sports Hall) GCSE PE/BTEC Sport Revision (CICT) Mr Dallaway	GIRLS' ROUNDERS Years 10-11 Mrs Harker/Miss Easton (Field) – day to be reviewed in May – will run on a Monday	FOOTBALL KS3 Mr Parker-Harding (Field) ATHLETICS All Years All PE staff – to start in May
FRIDAY		GIRLS' BASKETBALL Years 10 & 11 Mr Feery (Sports Hall)	BOYS' RUGBY All Years Mr Bligh (Field)	BOYS' BASKETBALL Years 10 & 11 Mr Feery (Gym) GYMNASTICS All Years Mrs Harker (Gym)

St Richard's Catholic College Calendar - Academic Year 2018/2019 (as at March 2019)

Please keep this sheet in a safe place and replace when updates are provided

Pupil Profiles (Years 7-11) to Parents/Carers
End of Term 4 (Easter Services for pupils)

Thursday, 4th April
Friday, 5th April

First Day of Term Five for pupils

Parental Focus Group (am)
Parental Focus Group (pm)
Year 7 Reports to Parents/Carers
Year 7 Parents' Evening
End of Term 5

Tuesday, 23rd April 2019

Wednesday, 1st May (9:15am)
Thursday, 2nd May (6:15pm)
Tuesday, 21st May
Thursday, 23rd May (5:00pm-8:00pm)
Friday, 24th May

First Day of Term Six for pupils

Year 10 WEX Preparation Day
KS3 Geography South of England Show Trip
Parental Focus Group (am)
Parental Focus Group (pm)
New Intake Evening for Sept. 2019 admissions

Monday, 3rd June 2019

Tuesday, 4th June
Friday, 7th June
Wednesday, 12th June (9:15am)
Thursday, 13th June (6:15pm)
Wednesday, 19th June (7:00pm)

INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)

Year 10 Work Experience Week
PTFA Summer Fayre

Monday, 24th June

Monday, 24th to Friday, 28th June
Saturday, 29th June
Tuesday, 2nd July
Wednesday, 3rd July (6:00-11:00pm)
Thursday, 4th July
Friday, 5th July
Friday, 5th July
Sunday, 7th July
9th, 11th and 12th July (evening performances)
Wednesday, 10th July

Year 10 Reports to Parents/Carers

Year 11 Prom

BLOCK Day 1

BLOCK Day 2

Geography Isle of Wight Trip departs

Geography Isle of Wight Trip returns

Summer Production

Sports Day

Year 9 Reports to Parents/Carers

Pupil Profiles (Years 7-10) to Parents/Carers

End of Term 6

Thursday, 11th July

Tuesday, 16th July

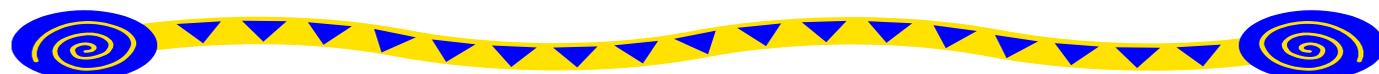
Friday, 19th July



Parking

We would like to kindly request that drivers are considerate of our neighbours in surrounding roads when dropping-off and picking up their children. Please do not block access to roads and driveways.

The seafront near Sutton Place, TN40 1PD, is the ideal place for pick-ups and drop-offs as it allows for a quick getaway. Thank you to all those parents now using the seafront.



ATTENDANCE

Thank you for supporting your child's attendance at school.

When your child is absent, please can you notify the school by using the Edulink app, emailing pupilabsence@strichardscc.com or leaving a voicemail on the pupil absence line.

Please remember to phone **every day** of your child's absence. This ensures that we can follow up on any safeguarding concerns more quickly.

NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter is emailed in the penultimate week of each term on a Friday. **You will be reminded via email.** If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter then please email your details to Mrs Klein (mrskleink@strichardscc.com).