



A welcome break

We have made it to a very welcome break after a long and busy half term. Just as the weather is starting to turn colder and the days shorter everyone is ready for a rest. I do hope that students and staff alike have a good week and return refreshed and ready for the long haul to Christmas.

Progress Updates

The Autumn Term assessments are now underway and the first sets of Progress Updates are being sent home today. These are for Years 7, 12 and 13. **Due to the postal dispute we are sending these Updates home via students rather than in the post.** It will be interesting to see if this proves more or less reliable than posting them.

Many students in the Sixth Form study subjects at other schools and these have provided assessments in different formats to ours. Rather than alter them to our school style we have decided to send them home as they have arrived; it will be useful to know if parents prefer one version or the other.

All of these year groups have a parents' evening on the Tuesday immediately after half term: 3rd November. This is an opportunity for parents of students in Year 7 to meet with form tutors and for Sixth Form students to meet their subject teachers.

School Photographs

This year's round of school photographs has been scheduled for Friday 6th November. This year we will be using the firm that has provided the photographs that are displayed around the school and on our new prospectus. One of the reasons that schools have photographs taken of students is for the students' files. These 'files' are now electronic and these are digital photos that are attached to them. As we had a new management information system last year we do not currently have any student photos on file so we are hoping to photograph the whole school on this one day.

Stop Press

Just as this week's newsletter was going to press the draft report from Ofsted arrived in school. This means that the final report will arrive in the next week and so an outline of the contents will be in the next newsletter. The full report will appear on the Ofsted website shortly – a link to this is available via the school website on the address below.

School Dinners

This week we have been appointing a provider for the school catering service. This is now an important aspect of school provision and has been the culmination of a long process. We hope that the successful firm will be providing food for breakfast, morning break and lunch for the next three years. Strict government guidelines concerning nutritional standards have to be adhered to as well as providing an attractive and varied menu. The three shortlisted companies presented to a panel of staff, students and governors and all showed an impressive variety of ideas to improve on the service we currently have. In addition to the quality of the food itself we had to consider the financial package that was presented and ideas for improving the systems for queuing and paying. The new service will start in January and further details will be outlined in future newsletters. A key element in our monitoring of the new service will be student feedback and no doubt they will tell parents how they find the new arrangements first.

Parents' Evening

Years 7, 12 and 13

Tuesday

3rd November

4.30 – 6.30 pm

Year 7 Welcome Mass

Today Father John Warrington Celebrated our Mass to officially welcome Year 7 to the school. This was a wonderful occasion and I would like to thank all involved in planning and taking part in the service. After Mass a tree was planted near the one that Bishop Michael planted for our 50th Anniversary in July and we hope to watch this grow over the next seven years as the students progress through the school. It will be interesting to see which is the tallest by 2016!

I hope you all have a good rest next week.

Sean Hayes

Sports News

Boys' Football

Our Year 7 team lost recently to Kings 3-1.

Boys' Rugby

Our Year 10/11 team recently beat Hampton College 31-30. This was the first rugby match of the season which turned out to be a fantastic game between two very evenly matched teams. Led by inspirational captain Danny Hartwell, it was an outstanding team performance with St John Fisher edging the game in the final moments. Tries were scored by: Judd Delgado, Aaron Knighton, Zygantas Pukas and Danny Hartwell. Danny also kicked a forty metre penalty for 3 crucial points in the last 10 minutes, which proved the difference between the 2 teams.

Indoor Rowing

Izabella Stepniak, Alice Bowden, Laura Bowden, Bradley Taylor, Hassan Nawaz, Omera Ejaz and Shai Brown recently took part in the first indoor rowing competition of the year held at Peterborough High School. All students performed exceptionally well, contributing valuable points towards the School's overall league score. St John Fisher is currently lying 3rd overall following the event. The next fixture will be on 18 November at Hampton College.

Advisory Notice

We have received an advisory information sheet from Children's Services expressing concern about the wearing of rubber bracelets, also called "shag bands". They are small coloured bands which most children innocently wear as a fashion accessory. However, they do seem to have sexual connotations associated with them too, which can place some young people into possible exposure to sexual behaviour and the potential for bullying.

We would just like to remind parents that the wearing of any bracelets in school is not permitted on grounds of health and safety, but we also felt it important that you should be aware of this new worrying trend.

Visit to Royal Albert Hall

A school trip is planned to the Royal Albert Hall on Friday 13 November to hear the Royal Philharmonic play Bond music. All students are welcome and anyone wishing to come on the trip should see Miss Vivash for a letter to take home. For further details of this trip, please contact Miss Vivash at school.

Learning Support Awards

Certificates for effort and progress this half term will be given to the following students:

Evie Barton	Sophie Barton
Cherise Betts	Kayleigh Darroch
Ghazala Fatima	Millie Foreman
Fabio Marzano	Tom Kemp
Nataniel Tomaszewski	Mikie Rose
Oliver Branigan	Atif Kassam
Rashid Khaderzai	

Well done to these students.

7VY visit to Central Park

7VY will be visiting Central Park on the morning of Tuesday 3 November. Please would parents ensure that students have sensible footwear and a waterproof coat with them.

Ms Wilson

Classics Students of the Month

Progress

Year 9: Billy Rosser
Year 10: Maria Miranda
Year 11: Kieran Evans
Year 12: Shaunagh McClean
Year 13: Sabba Manzer

Achievement

Year 9: Sabah Hashmi
Year 10: Ewa Stryczek
Year 11: Callum McAlliden
Year 12: Charlotte Whitwood
Year 13: Liam Cox

Parent Champion

In his role as Parent Champion, Father David will be available to see parents on Wednesday 4 November at 3.30 pm. Father David may be contacted by phoning him direct on 01733 562528 ext 5, or by email at frdavidallsouls@hotmail.com
