



Happy New Year

We start 2010 in a position of strength and with optimism that we will be out of Special Measures by the summer. We had an excellent end of term despite the weather with a lovely Carol Service led by Father John Warrington. This was followed by a delicious Christmas Dinner – my thanks to the catering staff and Sixth Form students – and a snowball fight on the tennis courts for those that wanted one. With the snow continuing to fall we were grateful for the early finish.

Bad Weather Procedure

I would like to remind you of our procedures in case of very bad weather. **The first point to note is that we will only make an announcement if the school is not opening:** there will be no announcement if we are opening as usual. The announcements will be on local radio stations and we will use our automated system to send text messages to parents' phones. If we are able to we will also put a message on the school website. Parents are asked to not telephone the school so that the lines remain clear for staff and calls we may need to make.

The second point to note is that we will not close the school early once we have opened. This means that there is no need for parents to ring the school to ask what is happening.

These two simple rules work well and parents co-operation is requested in keeping the phone lines clear.

Change of day

We noticed last term that in the colder weather students find our lunch break rather too long. For this half term we are shortening it by five minutes and extending morning break by five minutes to compensate. We will review this arrangement at half term. The start and finish times are therefore unchanged.

Weekly Mass

This term we have moved our weekly voluntary Mass to Tuesday morning, starting at 9.00 am in our Chapel. All students are invited to attend. My thanks to the priests who say Mass for us each week during the year. This week we had an additional Mass Wednesday lunchtime. The staff started the new term with a Liturgy on Monday morning.

Healthy Schools

I am delighted to announce that we have achieved Healthy Schools Status. This is a significant boost for us and I am grateful to Mr Reilly and the team who have worked so hard over the last year to make this possible. I intend that this is to be the first of many accolades as we move from negative pressures to positive achievements. It is an aim of the Local Authority that all the schools in the city become Healthy Schools and I am sure that Ofsted will also be impressed when they next visit.



Healthy Schools
CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

To achieve the status we were judged in four separate areas. The first was a requirement to have in place a PSHE programme that included health and drug education. The second was to have in place a Healthy Eating environment overseen by a member of the leadership group; this includes having a good catering service providing quality, fresh food each day – something we hope has improved again with the new catering contract with Cater Link which began this week. The third requirement was that we have a thorough approach to physical activity, providing both opportunities for students to exercise and encouraging them to do so. The fourth aspect was the provision for children's emotional health and wellbeing, including bullying. All four aspects had to be met.

Celebrating Achievement

In recent years one of the ways in which we have celebrated students' achievements has been through termly Achievement Teas. We have decided that a change of approach is needed so that we can congratulate students more frequently. So starting this week we will be celebrating achievement in this weekly newsletter by focussing on a different subject each week, starting with Art. Please look out for this regular feature to see if your child is mentioned.

Sean Hayes

Charity Fundraising

During Advent tutor groups were encouraged to raise money for good causes. These were The Cambridge Nazareth Trust, CAFOD and St Theresa's Homeless Shelter in Peterborough. Students donated tinned and dried goods which were taken to St Theresa's just before Christmas. So far we have raised £306.55 with money still coming in. Thank you to all our students and staff who willingly gave up their free time to help so enthusiastically with our Advent fundraising. We have also received a letter of thanks from Children in Need for the £635.39 that students raised with their non-uniform day on November. Students heard about making a positive contribution in assemblies last term and these activities are good examples of them doing this.

Youth Form Meeting at Queensgate

Following on from our Youth Forum Meeting, a group of 5 students were invited to attend a meeting with the directors of Queensgate Shopping Centre on Thursday 3 December to discuss the Centre's youth policy. The students raised a concern they had regarding the consistency of the way young people are dealt with within the Centre.

The directors explained that their priority is to provide an enjoyable experience for all shoppers, including young people, and would definitely revisit their customer service in relation to the way young people are spoken to and dealt with and ensure it is consistent. The directors did explain that they face challenges with a small percentage of young people with their language and behaviour in the Centre but did appreciate that they should not label all young people in the same way. So if you wish to be treated in a fair manner, please be aware of your actions. Loud behaviour can be intimidating to older shoppers and young families.

The directors were very impressed with the positive way our students conducted themselves and asked for them to be congratulated. This is the first time young people have been invited to discuss their issues with the directors. A further meeting is planned for the New Year.

The students involved were Jo Hostead, Amy Gilbert, Laura Smith, Shaunagh McClean and Oliver Branigan.

PCSO Jacqui Reid

Parent Champion

In his role as Parent Champion, Father David will be available to see parents on Wednesday 13 January 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

Achievement in Art

The students listed below have made excellent progress in Art and Design over the last term. These students will receive a prize of either a paint set, artist's pencils set or charcoal pencils.

Year 7 students have been studying Colour and Mark Making. Prizes are awarded to:

Effort: Andrew Williams, Ayden Calderbank
Progress: Chanice Green, Hassan Nawaz
Achievement: Marcelina Klupiec, Kieran O'Reilly

Year 8 students have been studying Cubism. Prizes are awarded to:

Effort: Alessandra Zazzarino, Koloman Tiser
Progress: Omera Ejaz, Zehra Latif
Achievement: Rosie Featherstone, Dawid Czekaj

Year 9 students have been studying Modern Society. Prizes are awarded to:

Effort: Lisamarie Jones, Jessica Gilbert
Progress: Tristian Goodfellow, Jessica Manchin
Achievement: Dominika Ciach, Manjoht Kaur

Prizes awarded to **GCSE** students:

Effort: Mikie Rose, Mohammad Umar, Jesse Owens
Progress: Shaban Adrees, Ieva Pavielkaite, Daria Wiecek, Lauren Tappenden
Achievement: Gemma Titchmarch, Riah Davi, Catherine Brooks

Prizes awarded to **A level** students:

Phongnaret Patikham, Jessica Guy

A special mention should go to William Healy for his work in Monday evenings Animation Club.

Thank you to all students and the staff who support them.

Mr Quilty



Music

Congratulations to Albert Johnson in Year 10 who passed his Grade 2 Piano exam with a Merit at the end of last term and to Esther Beard in Year 12 who passed her grade 5 Saxophone with a Distinction. Well done and thank you to their instrumental teachers for preparing them so well for this exam.

Ms Vivash