



More and Extra

One of the ways in which schools are judged is in the experiences that they offer students beyond the timetabled lessons. This half term there has been a lot of this additional work going on. I recently wrote about our students' contribution to Holocaust Memorial Day but later that week some were also part of the Candlelight Procession that featured among the events to commemorate Katharine of Aragon at the Cathedral.

This week Year 8 students have started their Geography Fieldtrips to Fengate and we had a Charity Concert last evening in the school hall to raise money for the charity *Shelter*. We had a *Hats for Haiti* day last week which raised money for the earthquake victims in last month's disaster and on Friday our assembly for Years 11-13 included Nicole Lawrence, an X Factor finalist, giving a stunning performance which the students really appreciated.

On Wednesday this week we had a guest giving a presentation for Year 11 entitled 'The Big Picture'. This was part of our package of support and encouragement in their examination year and was very well received – we had the same event last year. A programme of revision sessions and opportunities is being rolled out for Year 11 and details will be included in this weekly newsletter.

And this is just a snapshot of what goes on in school throughout the year. We aim to be as comprehensive as we can in these 'extras' and trust that the students benefit as a result. The feedback is invariably positive. Our weekly Mass this Tuesday morning was celebrated by Father Piotr Redlinski in Polish and was very well attended. We hope in future weeks to be able to have Mass said in other languages.

External 'extras' are also part of our school life now. Last month I was asked to speak to National Challenge Advisors from the East of England on our work as a National Challenge school (we are seen as being particularly successful in this) and this week Gary Longman, Headteacher of The King's School, and myself were invited to address a new group's first meeting. The Faith and Cohesion Network was meeting for the first time to consider *Education and Cohesion and the place of Faith schools*. Immediately after half term I have been asked to talk to prospective teachers at Bedfordshire University about school structures as part of their induction process.

All of these activities help to promote the school and publicise our work and I try to support as many as I can.

Sean Hayes

Half Term Break

Please remember that Monday 22 February is a staff training day. We have Dr Barry Hymer, a national figure in excellence in teaching, delivering a course on what makes an outstanding lesson. We have extended an invitation to some other schools in the city to this event. Students return to school after the break on Tuesday 23 February at the usual time.

Parents Evenings

There is a Parents Evening for Years 9, 12 and 13 on Tuesday 23 February, the first day back after half term. I hope to see a high turnout and would urge Year 9 parents to follow up any questions concerning Options choices on this occasion. This can be seen as a second opportunity to discuss suitable courses by finding out from your child's present teachers how well they are doing in courses that they would like to continue.

Lockers

When we moved into the new school we purchased as many lockers as we felt we had room for. Very few students have taken up the opportunity of having a locker and so we find ourselves in a situation where we have lots of empty lockers taking up space. We have decided to remove most of them and just retain enough for the students that require one.

Parent Champion

In his role as Parent Champion, Father David will be available to see parents on Wednesday 24 February 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

Revision Sessions for Year 11 Students

English	Mondays : 3.30 - 4.30
RE	Monday lunchtime
Business	Mondays : 3.30 - 4.30
Classics	Every lunchtime : 1.25 - 1.40
Music	Mondays : 3.30 - 4.30
ICT	Mondays : 3.30 - 5.00

**Year 9, 12 and 13 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 23 February
4.30 - 6.30 pm**

Please support your child by attending the Parents' Evening on Tuesday 23 February. Students should make appointments with their subject teachers.

Reading Matters:

"At the moment that we persuade a child, any child, to cross that magic threshold into a library, we change their lives forever, for the better. It's an enormous force for good." (Barack Obama)

World Book Day

World Book Day falls on 4 March this year and we have received promotional materials which will be displayed in school. We also have 200 World Book Day vouchers, which can be exchanged for one of the six WBD titles available at WH Smith, Sainsbury's, Tesco etc, or used as a £1 discount off your next purchase of a book or audio book from a more extensive list of books priced at £2.99. The offer is valid between 1 and 28 March, while stocks last. Students who would like a World Book Day Voucher should collect one from the Library after half term. Students can visit www.worldbookday.com to learn more about World Book Day and to see the books on offer. There will be a number of events taking place in school between 1 and 5 March, to celebrate World Book Day and to promote reading for pleasure.

Circus of Strings

Congratulations to Zain Awan, Aaron Graham, Fiona King, Rebecca Coombe-Boxall, Lauren Schwinger, Shellie Anne Smith and Mardiya Aurangzeb for their outstanding performance of 'Circus of Strings' on Tuesday. Their commitment and dedication to the piece is inspiring and they have raised £50 for Haiti. Well done and thank you for all your hard work.

Sports News

Year 7 and 9 girls took part in a cricket tournament against 3 other Peterborough schools last Tuesday. This was the first time the girls had competed in a tournament and they played extremely well. Hirra Hussain (Year 9) was captain for the girls and led the team to a creditable third place. Results were:

St John Fisher v TDA : 47-66

St John Fisher v Jack Hunt : 51-79

St John Fisher v TDA : 74-65

The Indoor Cricket teams have also been busy this week against Stanground College with a victory for the Year 8s. Well done!

The Big Picture

Year 11 students enjoyed The Big Picture motivational experience on Wednesday. Aaron Knighton, Kieran Evans and Catia Salgado write:

"The workshop by Keith Warren about the big picture was very enjoyable. The experience was great, it gave me great options for the future. It gave me the ability to think what I would like to do in the future. Keith taught us many things about the future and what we would be interested in. However, he delivered the talk in a very fun and entertaining way."

Another student commented: "the best part of the training was having a laugh and learning".

Keith will be back in school for a follow-up session, later in the year.

Achievement in History

This week we are celebrating the achievement of students in the History department. Awards go to:

Effort

Year 7	Alison Lloyd
Year 8	Evie Cox
Year 9	Tomas Horvath
Year 10	Chynna Pascual
Year 11	Arifa Hashmi
Year 12	Rabia Sheikh
Year 13	Sabba Manzer

Progress

Year 7	Irfan Sultani
Year 8	Milton Carveiro
Year 9	Sarah Silk-Smith
Year 10	Siobhan Kelly
Year 11	Iona Vitkauskaite
Year 12	Natalia Marcfeld
Year 13	Neelam Shahid

Achievement

Year 7	Josie Smith
Year 8	Amy Pragnell
Year 9	Tristan Goodfellow
Year 10	Katherine Ager
Year 11	Michael Jones
Year 12	Charlotte Whitwood
Year 13	James Chapman

Congratulations and well done to all.

Mrs Hostead