



Consultation on Times of Day

Earlier this term I said in the newsletter that we were going to consider altering the timing of our school day. This was for various reasons, including the fact that our lesson times differ enough from the other schools in the city for the Sixth Form to lose considerable teaching time when they have lessons in other schools. The fact that the other schools have agreed to start teaching at 9.00 am from September made this more of an issue. I was also aware of the different finish time to the primary schools and of the need for sports teams to leave school early for fixtures.

Having consulted with the staff we now have a proposal to put to parents and students. This is to move the current day forward by 15 minutes and to retain the 20 minute morning break that we introduced as a temporary measure in January. These two aspects mean that the day would then run as follows:

Registration	8.40
Period 1	9.00
Break	10.15
Period 2	10.35
[movement	11.50]
Period 3	11.55
Lunch	1.10
Period 4	2.00
End	3.15

These times would bring us more in line with the other schools and hopefully benefit after-school activities. They also mean that lunch is at a more reasonable time.

If parents would like to comment on the proposals, please contact me at the school be either writing or emailing the addresses at the foot of the newsletter. We will be consulting the students over the remainder of this term and hope to make a decision straight after Easter.

Weekly Mass

Mass is celebrated each Tuesday morning at 9.00 am. Parents would be most welcome to join us for this service. We have recently had Mass said in Polish and in Portuguese, but this coming week it will be in English. If you wish to attend please arrive at reception by 8.55 am. There is no need to let us know in advance that you will be coming.

Sean Hayes

Book Clubs

During the Summer term we will be launching our new 'Book Club' initiative for students who enjoy reading for pleasure and are keen to explore the world of children's/teenage fiction, by reading a set book and taking part in a 30 minute weekly discussion about the book, the author and the genre. Students may like to use this format as an introduction to the 'Summer Reading Challenge', held annually in local libraries. Students who would like to register their interest in joining a Book Club should visit the Library.

Year 11 Revision Days

Next Tuesday, a group of Year 11 students will attend a variety of workshops to focus on key topics within Mathematics at grade C standard. This day will supplement the work undertaken in class and at the revision sessions held on Thursdays after school. It will be followed by a Revision Day on 30 April, during the Easter Holidays - students will receive more details about this in due course.

On Wednesday, Year 11 students will have an intensive revision morning which will focus on examination skills for the English GCSE paper. There will be a circus of sessions, each one devoted to a particular aspect of the examination. The day will also be enhanced by the issue of GCSE guides to every student, which will allow further revision to continue both in school and at home.

Achievement in Mathematics

This week we are celebrating the achievement of students in the Maths department. The following students have been nominated for consistent effort or particular achievement in their mathematics work:

Effort

Year 7	Kaneez Abbas, Shagufta Waseem
Year 8	Kayley Darroch, Karolina Durma
Year 9	Emily Gardner, Georgie Miah-Pitman
Year 10	Ewa Stryczek, Akvile Vitkauskaitė
Year 11	David Guest, Natalia Strug
Year 12	Erich Kuc
Year 13	Michael Harding

Achievement

Year 7	Danae Larham, Andrew Bellars
Year 8	Lauren Buckley, Zahra Iqbal
Year 9	Aisha Shakoor, Eileen Wells-Thompson
Year 10	Maria Miranda, Daria Wiecek
Year 11	Ilona Vitkauskaitė, Deividas Sakalauskas
Year 12	Connor O'Sullivan
Year 13	Hannah Bolton

YEAR
11
COUNT
DOWN

09
WEEKS to
half-term

44
school
DAYS
to exams

23
Maths &
English
LESSONS

18
other
GCSE
LESSONS

Year 11 – SAM Learning Challenge

Earlier in the year all Year 11 students were set the challenge to complete at least 10 hours of revision using SAM Learning by the time their exams start. As we can see from the Year 11 Countdown, there are 9 weeks left to achieve this goal. Students are aware of their usernames and passwords and can access this revision tool 24/7. The Centre ID is PEISJ. The average usage across all students in Year 11 is currently just over 4½ hours. Please encourage your son/daughter to use this resource. SAM Learning can be accessed from the school website or directly at www.samlearning.com. The Maths department has subscribed to a specialist website called www.mymaths.co.uk which Year 11 students are familiar with. A further website for revision of most subjects is from the BBC called www.bbc.co.uk/gcsebitesize.



Lent

Our theme for Lent this year is 'Give it Up' - 'Walk With Us'. We remember that we are called to journey with God even though it may be hard at times. During Lent we have a special prayer to say and all staff and students have received this prayer on a special card.

On Tuesday we had Reconciliation in school. This consisted of two short services which was followed by the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or to talk with a priest in the hall with six of our deanery priests. We are very grateful to our deanery priests for coming into school for this and to our students for conducting themselves in a mature and respectful way. Our Liturgy is inclusive and students of all faiths and none are always welcome and do take an active part.

Fundraising

Part of our Lenten observation is Almsgiving: giving money to charity. This year we will be supporting the CAFOD appeal for Haiti and the charity EducAid set up by Miriam Mason.

Students and staff will be planning and participating in a fundraising activity of their choice. The challenge for each form group will be to make as much money as possible out of £5.00. At the end of their activity all students will analyse and evaluate their participation in the event. There will be a prize for the form group that raises the most money and certificates awarded to individuals who make a special effort.

Dracula Spectacula

This year's school production of The Dracula Spectacula Show was a "fangtastic" event with some truly brilliant performances from our talented cast of actors and musicians. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and commitment to the show. Certainly our audiences appreciated the wonderful singing, dancing and acting! After our final show, two trophies were awarded to members of the cast who had made a particular contribution to the event. The drama trophy was won by Aaron Knighton for his portrayal of Dracula's assistant Ghengis, and Riah Davis won the music trophy for her interpretation of Nadia Naive. Congratulations to all students involved. Watch out for the next music and drama event!

Nouvelles du Department Français

AS French students recently had an opportunity to visit The Courtauld Gallery in London with students from Jack Hunt, King's and Thomas Deacon Academy. When we arrived, we met our tour guide and immediately our brains switched to French. Our first challenge was to describe our favourite painting in the room. At first our French was a little rusty but we soon got the hang of it! Then we were given a group task to try and sell a Van Gogh painting, which was successfully executed. The tour guide was so impressed with our poster that it has been placed on the gallery's website. We had a wonderful day and really gained a lot from the trip, including new vocabulary to use now and for A2 next year.

*Esther Beard, Antonio Monteiro, Cecilia Da Silva
Soraia Barbosa, Jade Wheeler*

On Friday 9 March, Year 10 and 12 students had an opportunity to meet students from Bourges in France; a city twinned with Peterborough. It was great to practise our French on native speakers and to compare how they learn English with how we learn French. We all enjoyed the day.

Rufaro Chibanda (8WK)

Year 7 and 8 Spring Disco

As part of the Young Enterprise course, the Sixth Form business "Platinum Ent" has organised a Spring Disco for Year 7 and 8 students. This will be held on Thursday 18 March in the School Hall from 3.45-5.45. Letters are available from Student Services at break and lunch and permission slips must be completed and returned. Tickets cost £2.50. As well as a live DJ and games there will be a tuck shop where students can purchase food and drink. We hope to see you there.

Platinum Ent