



Easter and Spring

We have returned to school this week to start a new term, the first one for two years when we have not been in Special Measures. This week in assemblies I have been explaining to the students about some of the things we are planning to do next, linking this as a new beginning to the start of Eastertide and the season of Spring when trees are in bud and the first flowers are starting to appear: this is a new beginning for us and we are taking a new approach to our work. Over the holidays the Leadership Group has been working on our new Strategic Plan and started discussing this with staff and governors this week. The plan has four Key Themes to which we intend to link the various aspects of school improvement for the next three years.

The Key Themes are:

1. To be a Good, Catholic School
2. To have outstanding student involvement
3. To have a highly flexible curriculum
4. To have an outstanding pastoral system.

I have shared these with students this week and as we work on developing them in the coming weeks and months I will share this information with parents via the newsletter.

There will be some staffing changes as our plans unfold and we alter the distribution of responsibilities. The first temporary arrangements have come into place this week as we cover for Catherine Wilson's maternity leave: her role as SEN Co-ordinator which will be shared by Tim Price and Jo Sennett; parents may find either Mr Price or Mrs Sennett contacting you about your child.

The final change this week has been the first meeting of the Shadow Governing Body. During the coming months they will begin forming a permanent Governing Body which should be in place for September. As these plans unfold they too will be outlined in the newsletter.

Our Condolences

We wish to send our condolences to the Polish community on the tragic loss of your President and so many other dignitaries in the recent air crash. This loss has been particularly felt locally as one of those who died was Canon Bronislaw Gostomski, who was here in the 1980s. We have said prayers in school this week for the victims and their families and have arranged for our weekly Mass this coming Tuesday to be said for their intentions. If any parents would like to attend this Mass please come to the front reception for 8.55.

Term Dates 2010-11

We now have the term dates for next year, including staff training days. These appear below and are based on the term dates for all schools in Peterborough. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that holidays should not be taken during term time and to point out that these dates have been issued well in advance of the start of the year. I am still receiving many requests for leave of absence during term time. Where these are not for exceptional reasons they are refused and if the student then misses school fixed penalty notices are then issued. More importantly, there is a statistically proven link between attendance and achievement so very good reason to ensure that students do not miss school.

Autumn Term 2010

<i>Begins</i>	Friday 3 September (Years 7 and 12) Monday 6 September (other Years)
<i>Half Term</i>	Monday 25 – Friday 29 October
<i>Ends</i>	Friday 17 December
<i>Staff Training</i>	Wednesday 1 September Thursday 2 September Friday 1 October

Spring Term 2011

<i>Begins</i>	Tuesday 4 January
<i>Half Term</i>	Monday 21 – Friday 25 February
<i>Ends</i>	Friday 8 April
<i>Staff Training</i>	Monday 28 February

Summer Term 2011

<i>Begins</i>	Tuesday 26 April
<i>Half Term</i>	Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June
<i>Ends</i>	Thursday 21 July
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	Monday 2 May
<i>Staff Training</i>	Friday 22 July

Sean Hayes

Kondolencje

Chcielibyśmy przekazać wyrazy współczucia dla polskiej społeczności z powodu utraty prezydenta i wielu innych dygnitarzy w ostatniej katastrofie lotniczej. Ta strata jest szczególnie odczuwalna na szczeblu lokalnym, ponieważ jednym z tych, którzy zgineli, był ksiądz pralata Bronislaw Gostomski, który od roku 1980 był tutaj, w Peterborough. W tym tygodniu odmowiliśmy modlitwe w szkole ku czci ofiar tragicznego wypadku oraz zorganizowana została Msza święta, która odbędzie się we wtorek w przyszłym tygodniu. Jeżeli którykolwiek z rodziców chciałby w niej uczestniczyć, serdecznie zapraszamy na godz. 8:55.

Top Tips for GCSE English Revision

When writing to inform in Paper 2 of the English examination, memorise the following:

- P - present tense
- I - interesting and unusual detail
- C - clear introduction (explaining the context of your writing)
- T - technical language (briefly explained)
- U - use of personal experience
- R - range of different aspects about the topic
- E - effective organisation with clear links between sentences and paragraphs (connectives)

Typical words/phrases to use when writing to INFORM:

- There are many kinds of ...
- The one I am most interested in is ...
- The pleasure I find in ...
- The excitement lies in ...
- By far the most interesting aspect is ...
- If you want to ... then you need to ...
- Make sure that you ...
- Some people enjoy ...
- Other kinds of ...

Use your English guide and revise a little every night!

Sport Relief 2010

A massive thank you to all who took part in Sport Relief before Easter. Events were held at lunchtime in the sports hall with students paying 50p to enter. The activities ranged from Hula Hoop challenge, Rowing challenge, Basketball shootout (challenge Mr Vermaut!), Wii Fit challenge and speed stacking. Also on Friday we held a "wear anything red to school" day where students paid £1 to wear red in addition to their uniform. A massive thank you to all those students who took part and helped to make Sport Relief 2010 a success and for making the world of difference to people living unimaginably tough lives. All the money raised for Sport Relief is spent by Comic Relief to help disadvantaged people, both at home in the UK and across the world's poorest countries, to turn their lives around.

Miss Ward

YEAR

11

COUNT
DOWN

06

WEEKS to
half-term

29

school
DAYS

to exams

15

Maths &
English
LESSONS

12

other
GCSE
LESSONS

Achievement in Learning Support

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

Achievement:

- Year 7 Pedro Gomes
- Year 8 Renay Nicole Kenton
- Year 9 Michal Bulka
- Year 10 Laura Smith
- Year 11 Mardiya Aurangzeb

Effort:

- Year 7 Tomas Husar
- Year 8 Emma Johnson
- Year 9 Jessica Machin
- Year 10 Lukas Triskauskas
- Year 11 Konrad Radzikowski

Progress:

- Year 7 Cherise Betts
- Year 8 Kristian Pulhos
- Year 9 Jan Kandrac
- Year 10 Francesco Liset
- Year 11 Ashley Smith

School Photographer

The school photographer will be coming to school on Monday 19 April. Year 11 students will have individual 'Celebrity Square' headshots taken; these are fun, informal photographs which will be available to buy as individual headshots or as an entire tutor group. Year 7 students will be photographed in tutor groups in a contemporary 'freestyle' setup.

