St John Fisher News

14 June 2013 No. 184

Our New Bishop

On Tuesday morning it was announced on the Vatican website that Bishop Alan Stephen Hopes is to be the new Bishop of East Anglia. The announcement of his appointment comes almost two years after Bishop Michael passed away, and will be very welcome across the diocese. Three of our students were present at the cathedral for the announcement on Tuesday morning.

Bishop Alan, who is currently an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Westminster, was born in Oxford on 14 March 1944. Having obtained the Bachelor of Divinity from King's College in London, he was ordained a priest of the Anglican church in 1968. He was received into the Catholic Church in 1992 and ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster in 1995. He spent two years in the parish of Our Lady of Victories in Kensington before becoming parish priest of Our Most Holy Redeemer and Saint Thomas More in Chelsea. In 2001 he was named Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Westminster and in 2003, he was named titular Bishop of Cuncacestre and Auxiliary of Westminster.

He currently serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Liturgy for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Learning of the appointment, Bishop Alan said:

"It is with a profound sense of trust in God's loving care for us, that I will undertake this new ministry as Bishop of East Anglia, entrusted to me by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. In this year of faith, and at the beginning of the pontificate of Pope Francis, it is an immense privilege to be called to follow in the footsteps of the late Bishop Michael Evans in serving and leading God's holy people in this diocese. I look forward with joy to working with the priests, deacons, religious and all the faithful who minister in the parishes, schools, chaplaincies and other pastoral and charitable ministries of the diocese in our common task of evangelisation. I am grateful indeed to Fr David Bagstaff who has been Diocesan Administrator for the past two years and all who have had supported him in this responsibility.

"I look forward to working closely with our many ecumenical partners in seeking to respond to the call of our Lord Jesus Christ to love God and serve our neighbours. I also hope to engage with the members of the other faith communities and all people of good will.

Bishop Alan will be installed as the fourth Bishop of East Anglia on Tuesday 16 July at St John the Baptist Cathedral, Norwich. We look forward to his first visit to our school next year.

Our primary schools

We continue to work closely with our feeder primary schools. Next Tuesday morning the headteachers will have our termly meeting where we can discuss current issues and plan future joint events. The next big event is the Charity Concert on 4 July and we hope that parents will be able to support this well.

Recently students from Years 5 and 6 at St Thomas More have been into school for technology lessons and our archery club students were present at Sacred Heart for their feast day last week, giving a demonstration and teaching the younger students the basics. This week Mr Quilty ran an animation workshop for Year 3 at Sacred Heart while their Year 4 came to St John Fisher for a Rainforest Day, which proved to be very exciting.

Year 11 Prom Photos

Photos from this year's Prom are now on the school website within the gallery. Please do take a look – it was a glittering occasion and hugely successful. The students worked very hard to reach this stage and it was good to see them relaxing and enjoying themselves at this event.

Sean Hayes

House Update	Points
Beverley	15965
Cambridge	15167
Rochester	18830
Westminster	19498

School Council

This year has been an active and hard working year for the School Council. Under the leadership of our sixth form officers, the Council has dealt with a variety of issues, ranging from dealing with chewing gum to reviewing the Racial and Bullying Policies.

The School Council has demonstrated great maturity in discussing issues to do with teaching and learning as well as creating a practical strategy to reduce chewing in school. The new merit system was also initiated by the School Council and a new electronic system implemented across school, making it easier for staff to award merits.

The students of the School Council have also taken a lead on Road Safety, writing to local MPs and councillors. A new Anti-Bullying Policy was also introduced and was ratified by the Governors in March 2013.

New TV monitors and Honours Board were also the ideas of the School Council and it is pleasing to see that after every council meeting, students feed back to their Houses in assembly.

The School Council serves a vital role in School and ensures that students have an active voice within school.

Thank you to all representatives of the School Council for their continued hard work. *Mr Reilly*

St John Fisher's Got Talent

Britain's Got Talent finalists *The Luminites* sent St John Fisher students a special video thanking us for our support after they performed here last year. They also sent us a message helping us to advertise the annual Charity Concert which will be on 4 July, where all money raised will be going to Cancer Research UK. This is a student-run event, organised by the current Year 12 students - Emily, William and Calton. The event is part of their course which they have been working really hard towards. Tickets are on sale from Student Services: £3 for adults and £1.50 for students.

Charity concert wristbands are also on sale in the hall at break time for £1. Thank you for your support.

Miss Bird

Speakers for Schools

On 25 June we have a speaker coming into school to talk to Year 10 and 12 students. He is an internationally renowned Technical Director and has clients ranging from Her Majesty the Queen to Queen the rock band. The speaker would like to remain anonymous until he arrives on the day, in order that the students can fully appreciate that anything is possible if you put your mind to it.

Our thanks must go to Katherine Ager in Year 13 for making the application to the organisation 'Speakers for Schools'.

I believe the students will be really Impressed with our visitor and we hope it spurs them on to make the most of the gifts and talents they have. *Mr Reilly*

Blue Day

On Thursday 6 June Cambridge House celebrated 'blue day' with a variety of activities on the theme of "All the fun of the fair". Great fun was had by all those who participated in the games which ranged from lucky numbers, bagatelle, higher or lower, Hoop-la, face painting, guess the sweets in a jar and guess the name of the teddy bear. Students in C5, who were very busy icing blue cakes during registration, and Zeeshan Waseem from C9, sold cakes at break and lunch.

A special thank you must go to Mrs Batchelor, Gabriella's mum, who ordered some cakes for us to sell on her behalf. It is wonderful that Cambridge parents support the house in fundraising.

Jack Kerrigan (C4) must also be commended for donating his own time and money in providing the sweets for the guess the sweets in the jar.

Our fundraising for Blue Day totalled £125.60 and we will be donating this to WaterAid who provide clean water for communities in the developing world.

Well done to all who took part and we look forward to making next year's event bigger and better.

Mrs Helcoop

Meeting the New Bishop

On Tuesday 11 June, Callum Jones-Molyneux, Fred Cook, Mrs Pereira and I went to Norwich to meet the new Bishop of East Anglia. It was a very exciting day. After the welcome we all got a chance to talk to the Bishop and found him to be very kind, insightful and down-to-earth. My first impression of him was that he seemed approachable and very open, which made us all feel relaxed. *Marcelina Klupiec*

Word of the Week:

~~ Dystopia ~~

An imagined place or state of things in which everything is unpleasant or bad

Year 9 Spelling Bee

26 June

~~ 2 weeks to go ~~