St John Fisher News

10 May 2013 No. 180

In time of need

One of the aspects of our school that we are most proud of is the Catholic ethos, the fact that we are a community joined in faith. This means that we care about more than just exam results and good behaviour: we also support our students, and staff, in times of need. Each week there are issues that some students face which are difficult and challenging, and which require compassion and understanding. Almost always the nature of the issue is such that it needs to remain confidential, but this doesn't mean that it is not important.

We have a strong pastoral care structure of which we are rightly proud. Each student has a form tutor, a Student Support Officer, and a Head of House to assist them, as well as their subject teachers. We also have teaching assistants, our PCSO, Social Worker, Father Michael, and other support staff available. In some cases we bring in people from outside school, often from the local authority, to work with individual children or sometimes whole families. For most of the students most of the time this all happens without their knowledge.

We are also a praying community. Each morning the staff start the day with prayer in the staffroom and then the students do the same in their tutor groups. Governing Body meetings also start with prayer. At these times we can pray for the needs of those in our school who are having difficulties without naming them. It doesn't weaken the prayer and it helps us to be strong for each other. Experiencing this enables students to appreciate this support should it ever happen that they are in need.

We pray for those in our school who are unwell, or grieving the loss of a loved one, or who are sad, or going through a difficult time. May we all continue to look out for each other, sharing God's love in our actions, prayers and deeds.
Amen

Foundation Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Foundation Governor. Foundation Governors are appointed by the bishop to represent him on the governing body of diocesan schools. Although we currently do not have a bishop we still need to have enough Foundation Governors for them to be in the majority. Additionally, there has to be a certain number of parents on each governing body and the combination of these two requirements is that we have to have some Foundation Governors who are also parents. Our vacancy is for a Parent Foundation Governor.

As we are a Catholic school our Foundation Governors have to be Catholic. Any parent who would like to have their name put forward for consideration for this position should please speak to me in the first instance. I will then be able to tell you a little more about what is involved and the process of being nominated.

Sean Hayes

Year 11 Revision Website

Lots of useful exam revision materials here:

website: students.pixl.org.uk

username: stjfchs-xlp
password: fisher1

RE Revision Class

Year 11 RE Revision Class

Saturday 18 May
10.00 – 12.00

All Year 11 students are welcome

This is the final session before the examination on Tuesday 21 May

Awards Board

We are delighted to have received our Head Boy and Head Girl Awards Board, which is now proudly displayed in the Dining Hall. This was a request from the School Council, to try and inspire all students to want to be student leaders in school. We are still waiting for the Board for Deputy Head Boys and Head Girls to arrive. We are very fortunate to have senior students who are great ambassadors for the school and are very supportive of its ethos.

Recently we have also introduced awarding merits electronically. This was another request from the School Council. The main aim is to try and ensure more merits are awarded to students and avoid merits going missing. It is still early days but the system seems to be working.

Mr Reilly

Library Word of the Week:

~~ Inestimable ~~

Too great to calculate

House Update	Points	Attendance
Beverley	12728	92.9%
Cambridge	13085	93.9%
Rochester	13494	92.8%
Westminster	17299	93.2%

Year 11 Prom
Friday 24 May
7.00 – 11.00 pm

Tickets are now on sale!

Available from Student Services
£15 per person

Year 8 Spelling Bee
Wednesday 22 May
3.30 pm
Room 101

Parent Perception Survey

As an important part of our monitoring and evaluation process, we have sent out a Parent Perception Survey which will help us to identify areas where progress has been made and also areas where we need to improve.

If you have received a survey, (not all parents will have done) please could you take the time to complete and return it to Student Services as soon as possible. Thank you.

Mr Reilly

The World's Most Exciting Careers Fair

(for 15-19 year olds)

Thursday 18 July : 9.30 – 3.30
Peterborough Embankment

Hundreds of employers
Apprenticeship information
CV and Interview boot camp
Careers info

Pitch your ideas to Dragons Den

Find out more by emailing
skills@opportunitypeterborough.co.uk

Parents' Evening: Years 7-9 Tuesday 21 May

Appointments are now being made for the Year 7, 8 and 9 Parents' Evening. This will take place on Tuesday 21 May from 2.30 – 6.30 pm.

Appointments should be made in advance online. Please refer to the letters that were posted home and click on the link on the school website to make appointments.

If you do not have access to a computer, please complete the Appointment sheet sent home with your child last week.

Students will finish school at 2.00 pm on Tuesday (with the exception of students taking an exam) so that we can prepare for the parents' evening.