



Governor News

On Wednesday evening the governors met for the termly meeting of the full governing body. We welcomed Father Jeffrey Downie, parish priest of St Luke's, Orton Malborne, as our new Foundation Governor. During the meeting governors discussed the national pressures on schools, including the funding situation and teacher recruitment issues. They also heard a progress update on the application to open a new Catholic primary school in Peterborough, and generally received updates on the working of the school. Term dates for next year were approved and are in this newsletter.

Governors also discussed a proposal to alter our school uniform. This has resulted from on-going issues with some aspects of the current requirements. There was agreement that we should explore the proposals further and so they are now being put to the School Council. Further details on this in next week's newsletter.

Next Week

We have our final week of term next week, later than neighbouring authorities who are breaking up today. At least we still have Easter in the middle of our holiday, which is traditional.

As it is the last week of term we have Celebration Assemblies each morning, when we will present students with certificates and awards for attendance, merits, and general success at school. These are always enjoyable occasions and it is good to celebrate success in this way.

We will have Easter liturgies on Friday morning and term will end at 3.15.

Sean Hayes

Beware Of Blue Whale Game

The local safeguarding board have made school aware of a social media game encouraging young people to self-harm and even commit suicide.

The "game" is called Blue Whale game and has resulted in a number of deaths in Russia. The worry of the local safeguarding board is that the Blue Whale Challenge could be copied here.

If you have any concerns about this issue or any other Safeguarding matter please feel free to contact Mr Reilly or the Student Support Officer for your house.

Term Dates 2017-18

The dates for next school year have now been agreed. These are always issued to parents at this time of year in order to help with holiday planning. It remains the government's intention that children should not be absent from school during term time for holidays and I am expected to remind parents and adhere to the policy. These dates are also on our website. Please note that not all terms start and finish on Mondays and Fridays next year, especially the Christmas Holiday.

Autumn Term 2017

4 & 5 September: Staff Training Days
Wed 6 September: Term begins for Year 7
Thu 7 September: Term begins for Years 8-13
Mon 23 – Fri 27 October: half term
Tue 19 December: term ends

Spring Term 2018

Wed 3 January: Term begins
Mon 12 – Fri 16 February: half term
Mon 19 February: Staff Training Day
Thursday 29 March: Term ends

Summer Term 2018

Mon 16 April: Term begins
Mon 7 May; Bank Holiday
Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June: half term
Friday 20 July: term ends
23 & 24 July: Staff Training days (disaggregated)

ECDL Congratulations

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students for completing their ECDL:

Distinction*

Shakira Anderson
Erminda Budreviciute
Asiyah Hakeem
Magda Kleczek
Mario Makula
Katie Vonhof

Distinction

James Barfield
Bruna Goncalves
Neringa Kolesnikovaite
Gilda Lleshi

Merit

Mariya Khan

Pass

Dion Joseph



Rochester Raising Money

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week, Rochester will be raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care and Teenage Cancer Trust.

Egg Roulette will be returning for three days. Six members of staff will face the box of eggs and risk egg on their face. Ms Stevens, Miss O'Connor, Mr Plane, Mr Akbar, Mr McCoy and Luke (the Chaplin) will play the game in the Sports Hall, from 1.30pm. It will be 20p per day to watch the teachers risk being egged.

This year there will also be a range of games to play and chocolate prizes to be won, these prizes are being organised by the House Council. You can enter the chocolate raffle or find the Joker to win an Easter Egg or even name the giant Easter Bunny competition for just 50p a go. Come and have an 'Eggcellent' time!

Ms Stevens

**Year 11 - Academic Tutoring
3 April - 7 April**

Teenage Cancer Trust Presentation

The Teenage Cancer Trust delivered an hour long presentation to Year 10 students during PSHE last Friday. The presentation focused on how cancer can affect young people, what young people can do to prevent cancer and also how the Teenage Cancer Trust supports young people with cancer.

Our presenter Louise was fantastic: down to earth, interesting and amusing; ensuring that the students had the right balance in receiving a serious message but in an appropriate way. Our students had lots of questions for her and a number approached her at the end to talk about individual concerns.

We will follow up her presentation in PSHE lessons and it is also worth noting that Rochester House also raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust as one of their nominated house charities. After this presentation all the students agreed what a worthwhile cause it was and also had the opportunity to reflect on how the choices they make now can impact on their health in the future.

Thank you to Year 10 for engaging in such a positive manner and making the most of the opportunity.

Please don't forget Rochester's 'Egg Roulette' charity event next week - monies raised will go to the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Miss Wilson



East Africa Crisis Appeal

In assembly this week we have been raising the issue of the famine across East Africa, where 16 million people face starvation. This is the result of 3 years of drought and poor harvests. Inevitably due to these droughts people are unable to recover.

We have committed to having daily bucket collections at break and lunchtimes until the end of term. £24 can save a child on the brink of death due to malnutrition. £60 can provide clean drinking water for a month to two families and £100 can provide clinical supplies to a clinic for a week.

During break on Monday we raised £53 alone in loose change. Please support this appeal so that other children can live life to the full.

"Inspire the world, and each one of us, to share what we have been given, so that everyone has enough and all your children can live life to the full!" Amen



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Learning Leaders

We are delighted to confirm the following students have been awarded Language Learning Leader status:

Sara Kuszyk	R6-GU
Emilija Klimaite	B2-ST
Eromu Ehwerhemuepha	C4-WH
Ophelia Flomo	R2-OC
Sabina Strug	R7-KI
Omar Hayat	B1-EW
Urte Cibityte	B2-ST
Erin O'Shea	R3-KH
Matas Baranauskas	W5-HD
Isabelle Martin	C7-HA

Expressive Arts News

Year 9 Arts Award students are working as a Theatre In Education Company, rehearsing for our version of Pinocchio. This will be performed to our feeder primary schools when it's completed.

