



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Here's to 2017

Welcome back to the new school term. I hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable break. I would like to welcome our new staff and hope you quickly feel at home in our community.

Christmastide



The season of Christmas ends with the Feast of the Epiphany. This is traditionally on 6 January but the church now celebrates the Feast on the nearest Sunday. We have returned to school

in the midst of Christmastide, the twelve days that begin with the celebration of Jesus' birth on the 25 December. Christmastide ends with the feast of the Epiphany, which is marked today on the 6 January. This is the feast that celebrates the coming of the Wise Men and their three gifts to Jesus.

Throughout Advent, we were waiting for God, and we are taught that God shows up in our lives in so many ways, through new and life-altering events. And as students, are we not in a season of life-altering events? Exams, homework, friendships and families?

So, Christmas: God arrives in our lives in a big way; Jesus, whom we've awaited, has arrived. And while the Christmas season lasts a handful of days into January and we're left with the question: Now what? Enter the wise men, a new year, and a moment of epiphany. We make resolutions as a way to try and be better in the New Year just as the wise men bought gifts to Jesus to show the facets of his life – gold for his kingship, frankincense for his holiness and myrrh pointing towards his death. May this new year be a chance for us to have our own 'epiphany' and make a new start wherever we may wish to.

Certificates Evening

Yesterday we welcomed back students who sat GCSE and A Level exams last summer when they came to collect their certificates. It was especially good to see those who have left us and to hear about what they have been up to since the summer.

Results Day and Parents Evening

Next Tuesday morning students in Years 11, 12 & 13 will receive the results of their recent PPE exams. This will happen in the same way as the real results next summer: students should go straight to the hall to collect their envelopes.

That afternoon we have Parents Evening for these year groups and so all students will be dismissed at 2pm. Online appointments have been available for some time but there are still some left: please try and book your appointments before you arrive.

If the student has more than one teacher for an A level course and you have not been able to book appointments with both teachers, we will help you do so when you sign in that afternoon.

Celebration Assemblies

At the end of last term we enjoyed some excellent assemblies as we celebrated students' achievements. Many certificates, awards and badges were issued and there were several displays of musical talent. Further details appear overleaf.

School Cup

At the end of last term the leader board was as follows:

Beverley	4655
Cambridge	4475
Westminster	4093
Rochester	2503



Date Reminders

This term's half term break is slightly longer than usual: students finish on Thursday 16 February and return on Tuesday 28 February. Year 10 students will be doing work experience the week after half term.

Options Evening for Year 9 students is Tuesday 24 January.

We break up for Easter on Friday 7 April and return on Monday 24 April.

Sean Hayes

Westminster House

The Westminster Celebration Assembly took place on Tuesday, 20 December and was a special event for students in the House as well as myself it being my first celebration assembly since I took over in September. During the first part of the assembly we were treated to a performance by Sam Maxwell, Cerys Porter and Endija Miltina. The song which they performed was a delightful piece with which the group had won the Fisher Arts Festival award earlier in the term. Well done and thank you for performing, it was really so very good. We also marked the success of Sam Maxwell, Afifa Zaman and Suriya Gul, our three sixth formers have been elected to the posts of Head Boy and Head and Deputy Head Girl respectively. This is an immensely proud achievement for them and the House. Students were then presented with certificates for 100% attendance, bronze and silver merits awards, and outstanding progress awards in various subjects. Tutor awards and prizes were then presented to those who have excelled in their form this term. The Head of House award was presented to a very shocked Alisha Thomas for her sustained improvement in school. The assembly ended by presenting the food bank collection. Thank you to all parents and students that contributed towards this. It will go a long way to helping a local charity feed Syrian refugees that have just arrived in the city. My final word of thanks went to all the students of Westminster House for their efforts throughout the term and a special mention was made to the house tutors, and our outstanding Student Support Officer Mrs Reid for all their hard work and dedication in what they do for our students. A very Happy New Year to you all.

Mr L Davis

Cambridge House

On Friday 16 December, in their final assembly of 2016, Cambridge celebrated their achievements since the start of this academic year. Mrs Helcoop led the assembly, as always awarding certificates for 100% attendance, merit certificates and for individual achievements in subject areas. Special mention must go to the students who were nominated for 'Best in Form' certificates by their tutors: C1 - Ashley Knight (year 7) for helping out with the Maths quiz every week; C2 - Ehsan Iqbal (year 7) who is a polite, mature and conscientious student, enthusiastic about all his learning and extra-curricular activities; C3 - Cheyenne Guest (year 11) who is a valuable and selfless member of the form and the wider school, actively involving herself in a number of school activities for the benefit of others; C4 - Sarah Spires (year 11) who has developed in self-confidence and takes an active role in the tutor group; C5 - Georgina Bowden (year 8) who goes quietly about the business of supporting the form, giving her point of view in a quiet measured way always considerate of others; C6 - Bruno Walewski (year 10) who has distinguished himself as a strong team player and a very hardworking tutee; C7 - Neringa Kolesnikovaite (year 11) who has worked tirelessly this term to revise for her PPEs and upcoming exams as well as showing outstanding behaviour in all lessons; and C8 - Mustafa Javed who can always be relied upon to help with the weekly maths in minutes and the quiz. The Pride of Cambridge award was awarded to Taisha Peplowska, who earlier this term won the Healthy Mind, Healthy Body poster competition. She won a cash prize of £60. Taisha did not want to accept her prize for herself, saying that was not the reason she had entered the competition, but that she enjoys art. Instead she has donated her prize to our Advent fundraising and so it will form part of our donation to our House Charity - Cambridge Nazareth Trust. Well done to all those who were awarded certificates but also to the whole house as they never cease to find ways of making me proud of them all.

Mrs Helcoop



Follow us on Twitter:
[@sjfpeterborough](https://twitter.com/sjfpeterborough)

**Year 11
Academic Tutoring
9 January - 13 January**