



Above and Beyond

Schools across the country differ in lots of ways but mainly teach the same subjects and the same exam courses. What makes the difference is what they do beyond the classroom: the other opportunities and experiences that they offer students. We are proud of the range of activities that we offer our students and already this term we have had students involved in a Duke of Edinburgh expedition, a Catenian Public Speaking Competition, a trip for The Brilliant Club, assemblies by our Learning Leaders, and this weekend the Army Cadets are at their camp. And there are many other things happening.

Below you will find a report about Safaa Moradi's entry to the public speaking competition and more on our new Learning Leaders who were appointed during assemblies led by the current Learning Leaders last week. I would like to congratulate the students who are involved in any of these activities and encourage more to take part: these different things that you do at school will make a difference when you leave school.

The Five Rs

In their assemblies last week, the Learning Leaders talked about the Five Rs: our expectations of students to help them become rounded adults. These are the five attributes that we identified some years ago and which we now recognise in their work.



Sitting in the assemblies made me think to refer to the Five Rs again in this newsletter as reminder to parents and the community that this is another additional aspect to our work. Ofsted acknowledged this when they inspected the school in November:

"Your five R's, 'resilience, resourcefulness, respect, reasoning and responsibility' are known and understood very well by the pupils in the school and they do their best to model these on a daily basis."

Year 11 Dates

In last week's newsletter I included some key dates for the term and term dates for next year. This week I want to include some key dates for Year 11 students:

- 10 & 11 May: Art GCSE Exam
- 14 May: Written GCSE exams begin
- 22 June: Written GCSE exams end
- 22 June: Year 11 Prom
- 6 July: Sixth Form Induction Day

Further information for students continuing into Year 12 will be issued later.

Lessons will continue throughout the period of written exams, although the timetable will be amended on a weekly basis to provide revision time for subjects before each exam.

This year, **Ramadan** coincides with the full exam period. We will again be supportive of our Muslim students as they mark this important time of year. Exam Boards are aware of this and say that they have been careful with the scheduling of exams, but I would like to point out that we are not able to alter the scheduling of any exams: we have to adhere strictly to the exam boards' timetable and regulations. In this, they have assumed that Eid al-Fitr will be celebrated on Saturday 16 June; they have scheduled the GCSE Science exam for the morning of Friday 15 June and all students must sit this in order to pass the Science GCSE. I mention this date in particular as Eid has not fallen during the exam season for many years. If students or parents have any questions about this issue, please contact me.

Sean Hayes



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Red Day

Beverley Red Day is on the Friday, 4 May and also a mufti day. We will be raising money for our 2 charities – Peterborough baby care unit and Educaid. Mufti tickets can be purchased from Beverley office at break and lunch times. Please support us on that day.

Academic Tutoring
Year 12 & 13: 23 April to 4 May

Promoting Learning Habits (5Rs) 2018

Last week, the Learning Leader experts re-launched the Learning Leader programme. Dr Karangi has been running training for a group of Learning Leaders who have become coordinators. Learning leaders are students who have consistently demonstrated the 5Rs: Resourcefulness, Responsibility, Resilience, Reflectiveness and Reasoning. During special assemblies, the LL Experts recognised those who had achieved Learning Leader status in different subjects, with badges and certificates. We hope they will inspire many more students to achieve this prestigious role. The main aims of the leadership programme is to: empower students to work in partnership with staff towards shared goals, provide opportunities for students to develop leadership skills, prepare students for Higher Education as well as achieving personal and professional excellence in life after formal education. To become a learning leader in an individual subject you need to show you can use the 5Rs in lessons and seek out challenges and persist in the midst of obstacles. Everyone has the potential to become a Learning Leader. Let us use our learning habits to improve learning in our school. *Glenver Miranda, Vanessa Abankwa & learning leader experts 2018.*

Beverley Update

Before the end of term we celebrated the achievements and progress of students at our celebration assembly. Quite a few students were awarded for having 100% attendance and for having 100 merits or more this term. The following students were nominated by their form tutors and recognised for their outstanding contribution to form: Chelsea Noronha & Haytham Afittou (B1), Safiyan Hussain & Rubina Halani (B2), Talia Buckley & Greta Pinkeviciute (B3), Negin Haydari & Zain Sultan (B4) Haseeb Iftikhar & Muskaan Nawaz (B5), Daniel Walton & Shayne Noronha (B6), Kaiden Pereira & Adam Drummond (B7), Jenae Holton & Anslo De Melo (B8).

The Head of House Award was awarded to Luis Monteiro Gomes and Jenae Holton for their outstanding contribution to Beverley throughout this year. The SSO award went to Bruna Goncalves for being a good role model to younger students. The Best form award went to B5. Finally, a special thanks to B3 for raising the most money of £65 in our Lenten fund raising events and to other forms for their effort as well. Congratulations to all award winners!
Mrs Udejaja

Free School Meal Entitlement Changes

Following a recent consultation by the Department for Education (DfE), there will be a new income threshold for all families receiving or going onto Universal Credit (UC). The new Income Threshold is £7,400 net (take home pay). **This change means more low-income working families will be entitled.** From 1 April 2018 a child will be eligible to receive free school meals if the parent/child are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
 - Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
 - Universal Credit (UC) - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- During the roll out period of UC across the Country, (until March 2022), the DfE have also implemented a Transitional Protection for children currently receiving free school meals to ensure that existing recipients of FSM will NOT lose their entitlement following the introduction of the new eligibility criteria.

All children receiving Free School Meals under the old criteria will continue to receive Free School Meals until the end of the UC roll out in March 2022, and until the end of their current school phase. i.e. if a student is in secondary school receiving FSM in March 2022, they will receive FSM until the end of year 11.

If you are not currently claiming free school meals but think your child/ren may be eligible, please complete an application form, available from Reception or on the school website www.stjohnfisherschool.org.uk and return it to Reception or Student Services with proof of your National Insurance number.

KS3 Creative Music Theatre Project

Over six weeks last term, 32 students from years 7-9 took part in an exciting Creative Musical Theatre Project organised by Peterborough Music Hub. Our students worked with James Campbell, a professional author, to come up with a story and with the guidance of professional musician and composer, Lewis Hall, composed various pieces of music for the production. Halfway through the project we met with 100 other students from other schools to join ideas together and create an original piece of musical theatre.

'A Hamster's Tale', tells the story of a young boy, Magnus (played by Sheridan Earl), who takes his pet hamster, Hamilton, with him on his first day at a new school. When someone accidentally bumps into him, Hamilton escapes and a whole new adventure ensues. The musical was performed at Kingsgate to an audience of primary school children. It was a great success and all involved enjoyed the whole experience from start to finish.

Public Speaking Competition

Last Sunday, Safaa Moradi represented the school in the annual Catholic Schools Catenian Public Speaking Competition. She battled pupils from 10 other schools in the regional round in Kegworth.

Safaa's performance on the day was exceptional. Her preparation was meticulous and her four minute speech, inspirational. She would easily have been placed had she not received a couple of time penalties. We couldn't be more proud of the determination, enthusiasm and hard work that she put into getting ready for the day. She is a credit to herself and the school and we are already looking forward to Safaa's next competition later this October.

Miss O' Connor