



School Funding - again

Over the last year I have detected a growing awareness among the general public of the difficulties that schools are facing with cuts to their funding. Often these comments have been countered by ministers who have said that more money is being put into education. One simple explanation of this apparent contradiction is that there are a lot more students which means more schools and therefore additional costs.

But this does not address the issue that existing schools have less to spend. This is largely due to what might be called stealth cuts: more of our income each year is being taken to pay for increased employer expenses (pensions and national insurance), the apprenticeship levy and pay rises. On the last of these, there is great pressure on the government to lift the public sector pay cap, and doing so would be a welcome factor in the need to recruit and retain teachers, but any pay increase that is not funded has to be paid for out of our existing income.

Governors met on Wednesday to try and set a budget for the coming financial year. All of these issues were very evident again, and sadly this is becoming an annual issue. The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a statement in parliament this week but it did not include any good news for education.

Moving into Holy Week

Sunday was Mother's Day, or Mothering Sunday, which always falls on the Fourth Sunday in Lent, which means we have just one more Sunday before Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week.

This year we will be in school right up to Maundy Thursday, something that rarely happens. On that day we will have our Easter Liturgy and as a school mark the end of Lent.

We therefore need to start our Celebration Assemblies next week, beginning with Beverley House on Wednesday. Term will finish at the usual time on the last day. More details about this in next week's newsletter.

Newsletter

Next week's newsletter will be the final one for this term. It will include details for the final week and the start of the summer term, as well as term dates for next year.



Parents' Evening

This Tuesday's Parents' Evening is for Years 8, 11 and 13, and will begin at 4pm. Online appointments should be made in advance please, using the details that have been sent home.

Sean Hayes

Academic Tutoring Year 8 - 12 to 23 March

Metamorphosis

On Tuesday, 27 February eighty drama students visited Jack Hunt to watch a performance of 'Metamorphosis' performed by Splendid Productions. The show was funny and engaging and even used sign language as part of the performance.



Residential Humanities Visit North Wales Monday 9 July - Friday 13 July 2018

A brief reminder that the fourth payment for the visit to Snowdonia is due by the end of this term. This should take your payments to date up to £200.

(The due dates are the latest possible payment date and payments can be made earlier)

Payment Type	Payment	Due Date
Term 4	£50	29.03.18
Outstanding Balance	£50	25.05.18

Dr Bottrill, Humanities Faculty Leader

