



Section 48 Inspection Report

Last month we had a short monitoring visit by a diocesan inspector to check on progress since our last full inspection in December 2013, when we were judged to be outstanding.

We have now received the report and it is available on our website. The principal aim is to ensure that standards have been maintained and that the recommendations made last time have been carried out. I am pleased to say that the inspector confirmed that both of these aspects have been met.

A couple of additional comments are worth sharing here:

Students are rightly proud of the school and were very keen to point out the strong, caring and professional relationships they had with the staff. They feel very safe in the school and feel supported by the caring ethos of the school. The students have a strong sense of the school's background and vision, and live out the school's mission statement "I have come that they might have life to the full" in the charitable works they so keenly undertake.

The RE department is well led; it has a high profile within the school and enjoys exceptionally high A Level results. ALPS scores also highlight the impressive levels of progress that the school makes with students from point of entry to exit. GCSE results have been consistently maintained and show progress in line with the national average.

It is particularly pleasing that the inspector recommends that the RE Faculty be graded as outstanding. This is very well deserved and a credit to the hard-working team: very well done.



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Correction

In last week's newsletter we inadvertently welcomed Father Michael Ryan to Wisbech parish, when it should have said March parish. Father James Fyfe continues to serve the Wisbech parish; my apologies for the error.

Sean Hayes



'A year of reading ... a lifetime of memories.'

Residential Humanities Visit – North Wales

Monday 8 July – Friday 12 July 2019

I am happy to report the continued popularity of the visit to North Wales led by the Geography and History Departments, although a small number of places are still available.

Both accommodation and transport have been booked for the visit and I would now like to take the opportunity to pass on the payment schedule for those attending.

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

Payment Type	Payment	Due Date
Deposit	£50	09.11.18
Half Term 3	£100	15.02.19
Half Term 4	£50	05.04.19
Outstanding Balance	£50	24.05.19



As residential visits at this time of year are obviously extremely popular, it is essential that payments are made to schedule in order that we do not lose our bookings.

Dr Bottrill, Humanities Faculty Leader

**Academic Tutoring
Year 12 & 13
7 January - 18 January**



HumanUtopia – Heroes Journey

humanutopia
Putting People First

This week saw a group of year 10 students start their journey to become 'heroes'. This initiative is designed to uncover the students' abilities to lead and mentor other students. During their training, the team of heroes were pushed out of their comfort zones and made to work with and talk to unfamiliar people; all of them did this with respect and the positive changes were clear to see in each of the students. The Heroes have been paired up with their 'Buddy' and will mentor them during school. The Heroes and Buddies will meet at least once a fortnight but will aim to see each other briefly every day. The new heroes will all get to wear a purple lanyard around the school which aims to identify them so younger students in school can approach them for help if and when needed during break and lunch times. This is an exciting time and we hope to embed the programme into school life.

Mrs E Udeaja

Year 11 – The 5Ps – Progress

Happy New Year and welcome back to Year 11. The New Year represents the important time when GCSE exams will be sat and results received. Following the PPEs, this time of year is all about making PROGRESS from one set of PPEs to the next, scheduled for March. Teachers will be working hard with students to highlight areas for improvement and developing skills in preparation for the next exams.

To help students make progress they will be invited to Period 5 intervention lessons. These are important for all students and they are expected to attend if invited. On a Monday EVERY student in Year 11 is expected to attend either Period 5 English or Maths; the students have been told which to attend. This will change after half-term. On a Wednesday and Thursday students will attend Period 5 sessions in subjects that invite them along. For students who have not been invited Room 211 will be open on a Wednesday and Thursday for their own study. A member of teaching staff will be available to support with this. Students are encouraged to make use of this facility.

“People always ask me about what sacrifices I’ve made. I always answer: I’ve made no sacrifices, I’ve made choices.”

Year 9 Options and Parents Evening

Parents are reminded that Tuesday 29 January is the KS4 options afternoon as well as the annual parents evening. A letter has been sent with all the information. It is very important that parents and students attend in order to get guidance and support through the options process, as well as finding out about progress in all subjects.

Year 9 Options and Parents Evening

Tuesday 29 January 2019
2pm – 6.30pm

Key Stage 4 Options presentations
at
2.10pm
3.45pm
5.30pm

Use the online parents evening booking system to book appointments with teachers around your chosen presentation slot.

Study Centre

Just a reminder that the Study Centre is open before school from 8.00pm and after school until 4.30pm. All students are welcome and are reminded that Mr Stanford and other staff are available after school to support with homework. We are also open at break and lunchtimes and have just had a delivery of new books for students to read.

Grinchmas Spirit Design Competition

Before Christmas, students visiting the Study Centre were invited to take part in the Grinchmas Spirit Design competition run by the Into Film Festival organisation. This was a national competition which aimed to get students into the Christmas spirit by designing a gadget that could help someone. We are delighted to tell you that **Zaina Amar** (W7) was one of the ten national winners. Very well done to Zaina – her Grinch themed prize is on its way.

Work Experience

Both year 10 and year 12 are undertaking work experience this year. Our admin team are currently undertaking the onerous task of organising placements. It is essential that students are submitting forms and responding to employers when contacted. Parental support in this area is always appreciated so please do ask your child what stage their placement has reached and what they need to do next. Year 10s will be getting support this term to prepare for interviews and think about personal presentation and effective communication during PSHE.