



Celebration of Achievement

On Tuesday evening we held our Celebration of Achievement, which is the annual event that acknowledges the hard work, progress and great achievements of many of our students. We recognise students not only for their success in academic subjects, but also for their contribution to the wider life of the school, including sport, music, drama and the work of their Houses. This celebration reflects our school mission, which encourages students to live life to the full and also to be of service to others and an instrument of God's work. It was fitting therefore that the final awards were for service to the school community.

Thank you to parents for coming to the celebration and also more widely for the support you give your children and the school. Thank you also to the staff who organised a wonderful evening. I would also like to thank the speaker, Liz Knight, the Director of the University Centre, Peterborough for her motivating speech and kindness towards the students.

School Calendar

The end of the summer term is always a busy time and I would urge parents to check the website and the newsletter regularly for details of events. This week many students in Years 7 and 8 have been out on Geography fieldwork, and students have been away in Holland and at the CCF camp. Next week there are a number of events that are worth highlighting:

Tuesday 2 July	6.00pm	Year 6 Parents Evening
Wednesday 3 July		Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 4 July	1.10pm	The Great Get Together
	2.00pm	6 th form 24 hour fast begins
Friday 5 July	3.30pm	Summer Fiesta

Kate Pereira

Academic Tutoring: Year 9
24 June – 5 July



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



Sensory Garden

We have begun work on part of the sensory garden. The cadets were out in force last Thursday, helping with some of the more back-breaking tasks. They dug flower beds, cut back bushes, made a turf seat, transplanted wild flowers and vigorously watered. The difference they made on the field was incredible and we are now ready to start some planting and get on with some creative projects. Year 8 will have a Focus day at the end of term when they will get involved in various projects linked to the garden. Our new dome-shaped greenhouse is on order and in the summer the hard landscaping will be completed, enabling the rest of the garden to be planted.

Please support us to reach our £10000 fundraising target by coming to the Summer Fiesta next week.



Tall Ships - Portsmouth

Here is the student's blog for the Tall Ship trip last week:

Entry One

We arrived at Portsmouth around midday and enthusiastically set off on our adventure following introductions to the very welcoming crew. On our way to Cowes, Isle of Wight, we were shown the fundamental needs of the boat and were introduced to the upper and lower decks (the different compartments of the boat), various commands and how to fulfil them. Once we managed to dock in Cowes, preparations for dinner were made whilst the rest of the students cleaned up the boat (put on covers, tied ropes etc.). After this we were able to go on shore into the town and have some free time. We then returned to an eventful dinner - including a debate about garlic mayo and jerk sauce!

At the end of the day everyone had showered and we settled in for the night, ready for another day of excitement.

Isabel

Entry Two

During my time at Tall ships, I have learnt so many different skills; such as how to tie different safety knots and how to steer the boat. We faced a few bumpy waves, which caused people to feel sick. However to numb the pain we did a lot of fun and useful activities, such as rope climbing. One really fun part of this activity was that the teachers participated and we decided to make it more interesting by spinning the boat in a 360° turn, causing the teachers to panic (lol)! Everyone who took part in this activity enjoyed it, even though it caused lots of people to fear it at first.

We decided to make Mia the 'Sailor of the day' because of her bravery in completing the rope climbing, even though she was terrified. After the seven hour voyage, everyone was keen to relax but our last challenge was to pack away the boat. Later in the evening we had a really good meal of fish and chips. This time of the day was one of the best, as this is the time when we all bonded and told jokes and got to know each other a little better.

Amber, Alfie J



Entry Three

We set off bright and early at 9:00 am with a few 'crew members' taking charge of raising the stay sail. Around midday we all helped with raising the main sail. Since we were given more responsibility, we were made to run the ship and steer (some better than others!) Also today many of us became more comfortable with the various commands and parts of the boat, which made things easier for both the crew and us.

Today was relatively eventful, with both boats getting involved in a 'dance off', which Challenger 2 won by a (nautical) mile of course! Included in our winning performance was the conga, YMCA, Bust Down and a few random dance moves thrown in.

Once we docked at around 4:00 pm we had a lot more free time to roam around than on other days, so we managed to get ice cream, go to the pier and chill out on the mini beach further down the shore. Overall, this was an extremely enjoyable day and we look forward to tomorrow.

Cleo, Isabel, Ashley

Entry Four

Today we had cereal for breakfast and we climbed a mast. Mia had a go at climbing and on the second go she made it to the top of the mast and she managed to overcome her fear of heights with the help from the Tallships team. She is now very proud of herself. We also sailed the boat whilst it was tilted, going side to side as we all had a go at jibbing. We did that for a few hours whilst we sailed around in circles. Then everyone had another go at steering (and we got home safely)!

Home Languages – GCSE and A Level

For students in Key Stage 4 or 5 if English is not your first language, we might be able to offer you the chance to complete a GCSE and/or A Level in a range of Home Languages. You will not have formal lessons but you will need to attend workshops and/or use past papers to practise your skills before you are entered. We currently have a great success rate for a number of languages including: GCSE Greek, Portuguese, Polish, Gujarati, Persian, Italian, Bengali, Russian and A Level Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. There are other languages available (for example Arabic and Turkish). Should you like to be entered for these exams, please see Miss Rodriguez. This is for students in Year 10 and 11, as well as 6th formers, but other year groups may start preparing now.

French Day Trip To The Opal Coast – Year 8 - 13th March 2020

We have still some places available for our next French trip to the Opal Coast, opened to current Year 7s only (whether you do French or not!). Deposit money to student services as soon as possible please to secure a place on this fabulous trip – think croissants, pains au chocolat, sweets and the opportunity to shop! Letters can be collected from the French department.

Miss Rodriguez
Head of Languages