



Do you know the school's mission statement?

God's children at the heart of everything we do. We listen, learn and achieve together.

Effective communication is essential to the first of the listed values. At the Parent Forums before Christmas there was universal feedback from parents saying 'bring back a regular Contact', so here it is, the first of our new fortnightly editions. We appreciate your desire to act upon the 'together' in our mission. Further to this, don't miss Contact's 'Dates for your Diary' so that you know when to support your child's preparation for Assessment Fortnights, or when your Parents' Evenings are. Acting on feedback from the summer's Parent Forums, every year group now has two Parents' Evenings per year and the extra hour on each provides more appointments.

The second of the listed values is 'learn'. We have raised standards of behaviour to improve the climate for learning. Success in this area was recognised by Ofsted as they reported in November that "behaviour has improved. Inspectors found orderly conduct around the school. Pupils were polite and friendly and working diligently in lessons. Relationships between staff and pupils and between pupils themselves appeared strong." We are now moving to raise expectations, especially around homework. We ask that every pupil completes approximately two hours independent study per day as they aim for success. Some of this will be homework which teachers set (Homework Club runs every day at lunch time and after school in the Library). The remainder should be independent study such as reading, revision and question practice. Recommended reading lists are displayed outside the library. We will post these on the website shortly.

Finally, as a Church School, we believe in the supreme value of everyone. So far in Worship this term, I have spoken about ambition and long-term goals for 2019 over short-term resolutions, while Mr Pittman has spoken about Holocaust Memorial Day and how we all have a responsibility to never turn a blind eye to evil or bullying. How we achieve success is as important as the success itself; let's recognise everyone's supreme value and achieve success together!

Nigel Jewell, Deputy Headteacher

EARLY CLOSURE

TUESDAY 29 JANUARY

Please note that pupils will finish at the earlier time of 2.15pm on Tuesday 29 January due to staff training. A reminder that Wednesday 30 January is INSET Day.

NON-UNIFORM DAY



There will be a non-uniform day on Thursday 7 February. Part of the money raised will go towards sponsoring a student's education in Uganda. The rest will go to one of our four House charities: St Wilfrid's Hospice; Taylor Made Dreams; Children with Cancer; and Rocking Horse Charity. If your child would like to take part, please remind him/her to bring in £1 in advance.

CHILDREN'S AUTHOR VISITS SCHOOL



This week, Mrs Ward's Year 8 English class were delighted to welcome a special visitor into their lesson: children's author and former Bishop Bell student, Amy Sparkes. Pupils asked questions and were given advice on how to explore a writing career as well as how to approach fiction writing tasks.

ENGLAND BASKETBALL STAR



Congratulations to Year 11 pupil, Max, who, with his team, Sussex Storm, overpowered Baltic Stars London, 85-76, to win the Under 16 Boys National Basketball Cup at the weekend.

It was a fiercely contested match but the boys played their hearts out and were well deserved winners.

Well done, Max!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

- 27 Y7 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 29 School finishes at 2.15pm for staff training
- 30 INSET DAY

February

- 7 Non-Uniform Day
- 13 Y11 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 14-20 Gambia Trip
- 15 Last Day of Term 3
- 25 First Day of Term 4
- 25 Y9 & Y11 Assessment Fortnight begins

March

- 12 Y8 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 13 Y9 Booster Vaccinations
- 19 Y7 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm

April

- 4 Y11 Photos
- 4 Y9 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 5 Last Day of Term 4
- 23 First Day of Term 5
- 24 Y10 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 29 Y8 & Y10 Assessment Fortnight begins

May

- 13 Y7 & Y9 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 20 Y8 HPV Immunisations
- 24 Last Day of Term 5

June

- 3 First Day of Term 6
- 14 Town Sports
- 17-21 Y10 Work Experience Week

July

- 1-4 Y8 Bushcraft Camp Trip
- 1 Y6 Familiarisation Day
- 2 Y6 Taster Day
- 12 Sports Day
- 23 Last Day of Term 6



SITUATIONS VACANT

Assistant Head of Year (Non-teaching)

£18,950 - £20,123 pa pro rata

37 hours per week - term time only + 1 week

Closing date: 12 noon Wednesday 6 February 2019

Our very busy Student Services team are looking for a new colleague. The main role will be to be one of our five Assistant Heads of Year leading good practice within the team and providing a consistent point of contact for all students. You will be the first line of communication for parents and students concerning pastoral issues.

It is essential that you have successful experience of working with secondary school children and a good basic education. This post holder will need to be a first aider.

For further information or to obtain an applicant pack please contact Mrs Sandie Windsor, Head of Personnel, 465469 / swindsor@stcatherines.college

Examination Invigilators / Scribes and Readers

£8.83 per hour (NJC Grade 2)

We require a number of additional examination invigilators and scribes and readers to support pupils during their exams, ensuring that all JCQ regulatory requirements for the conduct of examinations are strictly adhered to.

A Scribe is a person who in an examination writes or word processes a pupil's dictated answers to questions. Ideally, Scribes need to be familiar with the subject area and terminology and to have neat and legible handwriting.

For further information please contact Mrs Sandie Windsor, Head of Personnel, 465469 / swindsor@stcatherines.college

**YEAR 7
FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

Year 7 have been enjoying their Food Technology lessons this term. Last week, they learnt about knife skills as pictured right.

