



For me, the most magical moments of Christmas are often associated with the Carol Services, and as I write this, I am looking forward to St Catherine's Carol Service at St Andrew's Church. Christmas services often end with this blessing, and it seems an appropriate way of summarising the end of term too:

*May the **joy** of the angels, the **eagerness** of the shepherds, the **perseverance** of the wise men, the **obedience** of Joseph and Mary and the **peace** of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas.*

There's been a lot of joy in school this week. Christmas Dinner was enjoyed by hundreds of pupils on Wednesday and Thursday, and I would like to extend my thanks to our wonderful Café staff. We've shared joy and brought happiness to others too; singing at St Wilfrid's Hospice and the Blind Society and non-uniform days raising money for our house charities.

Learning is often more effective when it is done with eagerness and enjoyment. Even in the last week of term, it has been a pleasure to see learning brought to life and context through a Year 7 Drama Trip to the theatre and a Year 11 History Trip to London. Successful learning often requires perseverance, especially when it comes to revision. Best wishes to Year 10 as they revise for their English Literature mock exams; these take place on 9 and 10 January. Year 8 have their second Assessment Fortnight of the year in the first two weeks of January, and Year 10 follow a week later.

Year 11s completed their mock GCSEs recently and those who were obedient to their work and revision schedules will be rewarded with a sense of pride in their achievement. Others may receive a wake-up call for the home straight. Either way, mock results will be shared with pupils on Wednesday 10 January at an August-style results envelopes experience. Parents' Evening for Year 11 follows on 11 January.

In the meantime, can I wish everyone well for 2018, and may the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas and in the future.

Nigel Jewell, Vice Principal

FESTIVE SINGING IN THE COMMUNITY

A report from Mr Woozley:

Our school choir, Harmonix, recently visited some local charities to spread some festive cheer! This year we visited St Wilfrid's Hospice, then travelled on to sing at the Eastbourne Blind Society. Our pupils loved performing wearing santa hats, antlers etc, and the songs were well received. It's a pleasure to be able to give something back at this time of year.



YEAR 7 FOOD TECH

Over the last few weeks, Year 7 pupils have enjoyed festive cooking in their Food Tech lessons. Pupils cooked or baked something relating to a Christian Festival and produced some wonderful results!



CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM DCAT

Please see our website where you will find a Christmas letter from Canon Dr Anthony Cane, Chair of Directors at the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust:

<http://stcatherinescollege.ng2.devwebsite.co.uk/page/?title=Whole+School&pid=94>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

- 2 First Day of Term 3
- 2 Y8 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 8 Y10 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 11 Y11 Parents' Evening, 3.45pm-5.45pm
- 29 Y7 Assessment Fortnight begins

February

- 1&2 School Show, Matinee and Evening Performances
- 7 Y8 Parents' Evening, 3.45pm-5.45pm
- 9 Last Day of Term 3
- 19 First Day of Term 4
- 22 Y10 Parents' Evening, 3.45pm-5.45pm
- 26 Y9 & Y11 Assessment Fortnight begins

March

- 13 Y8 Options Evening, 4.00pm-6.30pm
- 21 Y7 Parents' Evening, 3.45pm-5.45pm
- 23 Non-uniform Day
- 29 Last Day of Term 4

April

- 16 First Day of Term 5
- 18 Performing Arts Evening, 6.30pm-8.30pm
- 19 Y11 Photos
- 24 Y10 & Y11 Big Futures Show (SDC Sports Park)
- 25 Y9 Parents' Evening, 3.45pm—5.45pm
- 27 Non-uniform Day
- 30 Y8 & Y10 Assessment Fortnight begins

May

- 14 Y7 & Y9 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 21 Y8 HPV Vaccinations
- 25 Last Day of Term 5

June

- 4 First Day of Term 6
- 15 Town Sports
- 21 Y6 Induction Evening, 5.30pm—8.00pm
- 25-29 Y10 Work Experience

July

- 2 Y6 Familiarisation Day (selected pupils)
- 3 Y6 Taster Day (all new pupils)
- 5 Y11 Prom
- 6 St Catherine's Sports Day
- 9-13 Y8 Bushcraft Residential Trip
- 20 Last Day of Term 6

OUTSIDE GYM

Pupils are very excited to be using our new outside gym which was made possible by a generous Health Improvement Grant.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Pupils and staff entered into the Christmas spirit this week, when they tucked into a delicious Christmas dinner cooked by our wonderful café staff. There was Christmas music and dinner was served by very Christmassy looking staff!

