



Happy New Year! Life at St Catherine's is back in full swing and, with just six weeks in this term, time will fly. Year 11s received their mock exam results on Wednesday and are now well and truly on the home straight to GCSEs. As I write this, I am looking forward to Year 11 Parents' Evening: it's a really valuable opportunity to work together with families to support their last few months of school.

This week, Year 10 have had their first experience of formal exam conditions as they sat their GCSE English Literature mocks. I must congratulate them on every aspect of how they approached those exams. Year 8 have also returned to Assessment fortnight in the last two weeks.

What is all this assessment about? For pupils, it's an opportunity to consolidate learning, practise revision skills and become familiar with the demands and pressures of exams. For parents, it allows you to get an accurate view of your child's progress and to work with us to reward areas of strength and support areas of need. For school, it gives us regular updates of each child's learning journey, enabling us to plan to meet emerging needs as effectively as possible. An example of St Catherine's responding to data from the Autumn assessments can be seen in the recent appointment of Mrs Nikdel as our Pupil Premium Champion. She will be working three days a week with our pupils to help ensure that everyone can access a quality education and progress into the next phase of education or training, ready and able to succeed, regardless of their background. 'God's children at the heart of everything we do' really does apply to everyone as we look to identify and close any gaps in children's learning.

Nigel Jewell, Vice Principal

YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS

A report from Mrs Poston:

This week, Year 9 pupils have been given a letter to bring home regarding their forthcoming DTP/Meningococcal ACWY vaccinations on 30 and 31 January. Please complete the online consent form as soon as possible and by Friday 19 January. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me: aposton@stcatherines.college or 465476.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

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

CONGRATULATIONS!!

This week, Mr Talbot, Mrs Inch (Head of House System) and Mr Watts (Head of Year 8) met with those pupils in Year 8 who had achieved the most house points in their year group so far during this academic year. They enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies in Mr Talbot's office.



APPRENTICESHIP TASTER DAYS

Thinking about an apprenticeship?

There will be gas and plumbing and electrical taster days at the Steve Willis Training Centre, Burgess Hill on the following dates:

Gas and Plumbing: Mon 12 February/Tues 29 May

Electrical: Fri 16 Feb/Thurs 31 May

Sessions run from 9.00am - 12.00 noon

To book a place, please contact 01444 870860 or apprenticeships@stevewillis.com. Spaces are limited!

LOST PROPERTY

A report from Mrs Poston:

We currently have several unnamed items in Student Services. If your child is missing anything, could I please ask you to refer to the recent email, sent via SchoolComms, which lists the items we have. Alternatively, please contact me on 01323 465476 or aposton@stcatherines.college. Lost PE kit is kept in the PE and Dance Departments.

Please make sure your child's items are clearly labelled with name tapes, long last stickers or permanent marker. Unclaimed items are disposed of after being unclaimed for a term.

TERM 3 PE CLUBS

Monday: No Clubs

Tuesday: Year 7 Rugby
Year 7/8/9 Basketball, Girls

Wednesday: Trampolining
Year 8 Rugby
Year 9/10/11 Basketball, Girls
Football, Girls

Thursday: Year 9/10/11 GCSE Revision
Trampolining
Year 10/11 Basketball, Boys
Year 7/8 Basketball
All Years Fitness

Friday: All years Touch Rugby



SITUATIONS VACANT

ATTENDANCE ASSISTANT

Single Status Grade 4 - £16,120 - £16,778 pa pro rata

15 hours per week to be worked 10.00am to 1.00pm daily, school term-time only

Fixed term post until 20 July 2018

Closing date: 12.00 noon, Wednesday 24 January

We are looking to recruit an Attendance Assistant to be responsible for assisting the Attendance Officer, monitoring and improving student attendance data within SIMS. The post holder will also support the College Attendance Policy through the administration of registration processes, following-up and investigating absences, and working closely alongside pastoral staff.

Previous experience of working in a secondary school environment and previous knowledge of SIMS would be an advantage.

EXAMINATION INVIGILATORS & SCRIBES & READERS

NJC Grade 2, scale point 11 £8.19 per hour

Closing date: 12.00 noon, Friday 26 January

We require a number of additional examinations invigilators / scribes to participate in conducting external examinations for pupils; ensuring that all JCQ regulatory requirements for the conduct of examinations are strictly adhered to.

The posts are claims only posts. You should be reliable, flexible and have availability throughout May and June each year for the actual examinations and in November for mock examinations. Experience of working in a school / college or working with young people would be desirable.

Applicant packs and application forms for the above posts can be obtained from our website or by contacting Mrs Windsor: 01323 465469 / swindsor@stcatherines.college.

Please send completed applications directly to Mrs Windsor by email.