

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although we are still waiting for Summer to arrive, school held its Summer Fair on Thursday 13th June. This is an opportunity for pupils to develop their enterprise skills. Each class meets and discusses activities that can generate income that is then used to fund end of term trips for the class. A real opportunity to develop business, communication, problem solving skills and to experience the work ethic money link. My thanks to the Sixth Form Enterprise team for organising this whole school event and to families, who were able to attend and support.

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Group took part in their practice expedition walk on Thursday, supported by Eloise, Pat and Adam (designated driver). There are 6 participants this year for the Bronze Award. Feedback from the practice was that map skills were excellent, as was the walking pace. The group completed their expedition 1 hour ahead of schedule- good timing as the rest of the afternoon was raining. The DofE award provides challenge to young people between the ages of 14-24 to attain standards of achievement and endeavour in a wide variety of active interests – to serve their communities, experience adventure and to develop and learn outside the classroom. Thank you to the DofE team, led by Anthea and Eloise who provide the opportunity for young people to succeed in the award.

Today the Modern Foreign Language Faculty coordinated by Mrs Artess held our first French Cultural Celebration Day! Pupils had the opportunity to experience a range of Cultural activities including Boccia and French cricket. Jenni in the kitchen is delivering a 'French Themed' menu, with menu cards so pupils can practice some of their French! We will also welcome 11 MFL ambassadors from our neighbouring High St. Nicholas' who will help school to run the day.

Mrs Artess is also planning further Cultural days: A Spanish cafe is planned for Friday, 5th July.

If we do get a period of sustained sunshine during the term it is important that school takes a sensible approach to making sure that all pupils are safe. We follow our Sun Protection Guidelines:

- School educates pupils about the dangers of exposure to sun and the precautions they can take to protect themselves.
- We always encourage pupils to drink water during the day. There are 2 water stations in school that pupils use throughout the day and water is placed on each table during lunch time.
- School has sun shade areas on the field that pupils can use to find shade.
- Pupils can use sun hats during break.
- Pupils can apply sun screen before they come to school. We can also help pupils with the application of sun screen, if families send it into school. If you wish your child to access sun screen, please send in a bottle, with your child's name on it.

All we need now is some sunshine!



Headteacher: Mr M. McCann

My apologies, if you have found it difficult recently to make contact with school during the day recently. Unfortunately, a member of the Office Team has been absent, which means the remaining members of the team are having to cover other areas in addition to their usual tasks. My thanks to Vicki (School Business Manager) Dottie (Operations Manager) and Jo (Review Officer) for their flexibility and support during this time in minimising the impact across wider school.

Hello from Residential,

At the end of last term you should have all received a timetable of what activities your child will doing whilst they are staying at residential. Hopefully you have also noticed an increase in contact from the keyworkers, this is another way for us to further develop on our communication and share the young people's experiences. It is important to us that we do continue to listen to the children's and parent's voice so we are always improving our provision. Remember there is also a weekly update on our Facebook page of what the young people have been up to each week.

The end of last term we had the residential council meetings, most young people shared that they really enjoyed Residential and there was nothing they would like to change. We spoke about the tea menu and how it was important to have healthy options. We now have a new menu that is available to view on the website. Although we try to offer healthy options we still like an end of term treat, during these times the young people are also learning others skills ie, using a telephone and money management.

Every year we have a family Barbeque, this is an informal gathering that gives parents the opportunity to meet keyworkers and to look at the apartments. This year we have decided that we will do this at the beginning of the Autumn Term, this is due to parents already coming into school most weeks for different school events, and we understand that it gets busy this time of year.

Have a lovely weekend.

Charlene

A message from our Family Liaison Advisor, Kate :

'Hello. I would like to thank those parents who completed the parent questionnaire regarding ideas for parental engagement. From September 2024, I will be holding a parent/carer activity once per half term. The first will be a parent/carer coffee morning. I will send out a timetable of activities in September. Everyone is welcome to come along, meet other parents and share ideas and experiences.'

Yours faithfully,

Mr McCann
Head Teacher



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