

11th September 2026

Dear Families

We have enjoyed our first full week back at school. It was lovely to welcome back our Sixth Form into their brand-new block on Monday. I hope you like some of the pictures attached. On Monday I shared the welcome back Collective Worship with both Years 12 & 13. On Wednesday Year 8 students went to MK Theatre to watch Barnum. Yesterday the whole school joined together to celebrate our first school Mass of the year. It was a lovely occasion, especially as it was an opportunity to formally welcome all new students into our community. Last night Year 7 parents came along to an Information Evening where they found out a little more about our school. Finally, today we have our First Year 6 Parent Tour of the year. If you know of families who have to make applications for secondary school places this year, then please do let them know that we have parents' tours each Friday morning until half term and these can be booked via our website. Also, today our A-level RE students have visited St Mary's University for a Theology Taster Day.

We had two football fixtures. Year 9 got their league campaign off to a fantastic start with an impressive 3–1 victory over Hazeley at home. The team showed great determination and teamwork from the opening whistle. Three goals secured a well-deserved win and gave the squad plenty of confidence going forward. The players worked hard throughout and produced a strong team performance. It was a brilliant start to the league campaign, with Year 9 now looking to build on this result. Year 10 travelled away to Hazeley and kicked off their title challenge with a hard-fought 2–1 victory. Despite having only 11 players available due to injuries, the team showed fantastic resilience and determination. The squad battled through the difficult circumstances to secure an important away win. This is a fantastic result that sets Year 10 up nicely for their title challenge.

Next week our Bronze D of E students are off on expedition from Monday to Tuesday. Year 12 are visiting the University of Buckingham on Wednesday for a 'Lawfest' and then again on Thursday for a 'Techfest'. Year 8 will have the opportunity to explore careers on Unifrog on Thursday and Year 10 will do this on Friday. That evening, Year 12 parents are invited to an information evening where the focus will be on the transition into Sixth Form and study habits at St Paul's. Year 12 course swaps must be completed by next Friday.

Our next whole school production is going to be the musical Annie. Auditions will be held in the theatre from 3.45pm on Wednesday. The Music and Drama departments have asked that students (from all year groups) prepare a song to sing (but not from Annie) with no backing track. Please encourage your child to try for a role. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase talent, learn about teamwork and meet new people.

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Next week I also begin examination review meetings with each department. This is an important opportunity for me to meet with Middle Leaders to consider outcomes from the Summer and to identify next steps for improvements.

Last academic year we did significant work on Catholic Social Teaching with your children. We continue that work this year. This half term's focus is on the Common Good and Care of our Common Home. Please take every opportunity that you can to discuss decision making and how this impacts on other people locally, nationally and globally.

The September bulletin from our Careers team is attached. You will see that there are many useful activities to help your children prepare for the workplace.

Finally, I would like to invite nominations for the role of Parent Governor. Please have a look at the separate communication that I will send on Monday and consider serving our community in this crucial role. I would be very happy to speak to anyone who would like further information.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



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