

Ministerium Tuum Imple Love Serve Do the best that is possible

2nd May 2025

Dear Families

What a fabulous week for the weather. We have really enjoyed the sunshine at St. Paul's but not so much the increase in bottles of water being used in water fights. I have asked staff to be extra vigilant about students who are using water bottles inappropriately, but I would be grateful if you could speak to your child about the importance of behaving responsibly and not getting involved in anything that could escalate and cause large groups of children to be unsafe.

This week Year 7 students have really enjoyed their multi skills residential and they were so lucky with the weather. I am grateful to staff who have spent the week away from their families to provide our children with this experience. Members of our Governing Board spent Monday morning reviewing our Business Services and Health & Safety in school. The feedback from this monitoring visit was excellent and I am grateful to our superb support staff middle leaders who work so well together for the good of our school. On Wednesday evening I attended our Mass of celebration for the Year 11 students who are sitting their examinations this year. It was a lovely occasion and a really important way to come together as the examinations approach. On Thursday evening Year 12 mentoring appointments took place. I hope parents found them supportive. Today we have had a non-uniform day for our charity, Willen Hospice.

Year 9 students approached their PPEs in a focused and dedicated way. I reflected to the senior team that I have been incredibly impressed by their maturity this week. I hope they enjoy a well-earned rest this weekend!

Well done to our Year 10 boys' football team who played their final last Friday against a very strong Watling Academy team and won 2-1. Special mention to goal scorers Stephen A and Leighton B and to Finn W and Alfie B for their efforts in saving two potential goals. Congratulations to all the boys involved who have gone the whole season without losing a game - a great way to finish the football season this year at St Paul's.

Next week Year 9 students will be going on retreat to Kintbury. Other students in Year 9 will have the opportunity to go on university visits on Tuesday and Wednesday. The public examination season begins on Thursday – I know that we have had lots of more practical examinations already. On Wednesday afternoon, Year 11 have their celebration assembly. After school on Wednesday we are hosting a Primary Engineers event where we will be training our primary schools' teachers. They will be creating a marble run! On Wednesday evening we will be holding the Year 13 Mass of Celebration. Everyone is welcome to this. On Thursday afternoon, Year 13 have their leavers











assembly and BBQ. Year 11 begin their study leave on Friday 9th May, but parents should be aware that there are bespoke study leave arrangements for some students.

Deaf Awareness Week takes place from $5^{th} - 11^{th}$ May and during tutor time we will be showing students a quiz and some videos from the NDCS. You can see these <u>here</u>.

We have a number of Prom outifts available to hire for Year 11 (at approximately £15), details have been shared with students on ClassCharts. If your child would like to hire an outfit or try anything on please ask them to let Mrs Donaldson know the item numbers by Friday 9th May so that we can organise a time for this.

Please remember that Monday is May Bank Holiday so we return to school on Tuesday 6th May. On Tuesday our Year 8 students will be having their HPV vaccinations. A message was sent earlier this week containing a letter from the vaccination team with the online consent form. Parents were asked to complete the form to say whether they consented or declined the vaccination. If you have not already done so please make sure you complete the form which you can find here. The electronic link will close at 12.00pm on Tuesday 6th May. If you have any issues completing the online form please contact the vaccination team direct on 0300 555 5055.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely long weekend with your families.

Yours sincerely

Jo-Anne Hoarty Headteacher

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