

3rd May 2019

*GCSE Examinations start in **10** days*

Dear Parent/Guardian

Academy Conversion Update

The academy conversion will now take place 1st June. The date has been moved back by one month to allow Star Academies, Lancashire County Council and the Department for Education to finalise the funding agreement.



Last week Mrs Haworth and Mrs Humphries took a group of Year 11s to Media City in Salford. The pupils who went were literacy leaders in Year 9 and their edition of Fearn's Chat, our school newspaper produced with Catherine Smyth, won two awards at the Shine Media Awards. The prize money was used to take them on the trip to Media City, where we had a tour of the BBC Studios there at Salford Quays. It was a really interesting and

informative tour. We looked around radio and television studios, saw where the BBC Breakfast Programme is filmed, saw Mary-Anne Hobbs presenting her BBC 6 Live Radio show and Mrs Humphries even had a go at presenting the weather forecast! After the tour, we went for lunch at Nando's before returning to school. Thank you to Mrs Haworth and Mrs Humphries for organising this super trip.



As Year 11 head towards their GCSE examinations it is only natural that some may be feeling overwhelmed. This is an important time for them and they need to be able to manage their workload effectively. Pupils need to ensure that they are taking sufficient breaks as well as eating and sleeping properly. These are basic needs but as we are all aware they can become less of a priority when dealing with stressful situations. If pupils are aware from an early age how to recognise and deal with these signs they will be gaining a skill which will equip them for their future. There is a booklet attached which outlines the key indicators of anxiety and provides useful tips. Mrs Mallaby-Corran (Becky) is available at lunchtime and Year 11 are encouraged to drop-in and speak to her if they have any concerns. In addition Year 11 pupils have been assigned a mentor who will touch base with them daily if needed or pupils can speak with Mrs Ward. Attendance at Breakfast and After-School Revision sessions is strongly encouraged as this time is so valuable and gives them access to their teachers to revisit any areas in a subject where they may need extra support. Most importantly please talk to your child, we offer support in school in many different ways but sometimes they need to know that they are supported at home too. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact school. Come on Year 11 – we are nearly there!!

Year 11 pupils should have received letters about leavers' hoodies this week. Mrs Mitchell has a colour swatch card for them to choose from. Please can all reply slips and money be brought in to school and handed in to Mrs Mitchell **by Monday 13th May. No orders can be placed after this deadline.**

Year 11 pupils who have been invited to attend the Year 11 prom at The Dunkenhalgh Hotel on Friday 28th June 2019 should have received the final letter asking for full payment to be made. Please ensure the completed slip indicating your child's travel requirements is handed in to Mrs Mitchell **by Friday 24th May** along with the final payment.

A group of Year 7 pupils attended a Gateway trip to the University of Manchester last week to take part in a variety of activities, all linked to courses you can study at the university. They worked with pupils from three other schools and were supported by eight university students who were sharing their experiences with them. It is the first of five annual visits which the group will take part in aimed at raising aspirations and encouraging progression onto university. Behaviour was fantastic and they represented the school in a very positive manner.

Please find a list of local College Open Evenings/Days attached for the attention of current Year 10 parents. Pupils are advised to visit as many as possible and if they have any questions they should see Mrs Bollard-Wilkes the Careers Adviser in school.

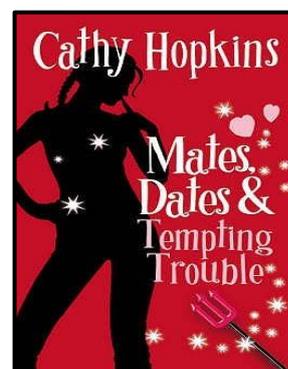


Bert the Bookworm Recommends...

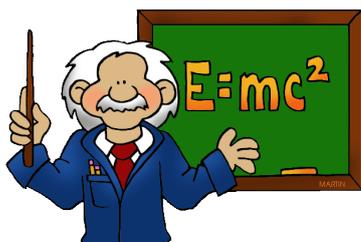
Mates, Dates and Tempting Trouble by Cathy Hopkins

I really liked this book because it talks about a group of girls that all have boyfriends. One girl in particular called TJ develops a crush on Nesta's boyfriend Luke. But then they both get chosen to work on a presentation together. Here comes the fun!

Mary Correia (8F)



Numeracy Question



The answer to the last numeracy question is 31.

This week's numeracy question is: Glancing at the reflection of Grandfather's clock in the mirror, John went out when he thought it was half past 10 and returned when he thought it was quarter to 9 on the same morning. How many minutes was he really out for?

I hope you all have an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

Mrs H Stead
Headteacher