

The Chantry School Newsletter

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Important dates for your diary

- Tues. 13 to Thur.15 Dec.—'Bugsy Malone' school production
- Thu. 15 Dec.—Progress Check/ Full reports issued
- **Fri. 16 Dec. :**

Charity non-uniform day for Guide Dogs for the Blind

Y11 School Carol Service at St. Peter's Church at 11.15am

School closes earlier for pupils for the Christmas holidays, buses leave at 12.30pm

- **Tues. 3 Jan. 2017 school re-opens**
- Thu. 5 Jan.—Y10 Work Experience Parent launch
- Mon. 9 Jan—Y11 Mock exams commence and end on Fri. 20 Jan.
- Thur. 12 Jan.—Y9 Parents' Evening
- Thu.—26 Jan. Y9 KS4 Information Evening
- Tues. 14 Feb. Y11 Parents' Evening
- Thur 16 Feb, - Charity non-uniform day
- Fri. 17 Feb—school closes for half-term and re-opens on Mon. 27 Feb
- Thur. 2 March—Y7 Parents' Evening

Friends—

"Write your criticism in dust, but your affirmation in marble" Benjamin Franklin. What a challenge this statement brings when so much of what we hear in the media is very critical of young people; it can almost feel that the opposite message is being communicated at times. In the light of this, it was so encouraging and inspiring to be at the Awards Evening recently and to see the former Year 11 pupils return to receive their awards and certificates. For me, it was a particular privilege to be able to present a new award, sponsored by The Chantry Friends, to a boy and a girl (Aaron Cooper and Megan Merrell) for their artistic contributions to the life of the school. Whilst the academic achievements of pupils are duly affirmed at the Awards Evening and rightly so, The Friends had decided that they wanted to sponsor an award that also recognised a particular area of non-academic

December 2016

Dear Parents/Carer

At this time of year we receive into school a wealth of data that informs us of the school's performance relative to all other schools nationally. I am delighted to say that our results stand up very strongly in this respect, with most indicators placing the school in the top 20% nationally and for some, e.g. for those pupils getting both English and maths at grade C and above, then we are in the top 10% of schools. This is an excellent achievement, and is testament to the collective hard work of pupils, parents and staff in last year's cohort. Y11 pupils approaching mock exams after Christmas should be well aware of the support they have in school. After school study support is now available, and we know that pupils who used this last year were much more successful than they expected in the final exams. Hopefully, many of the Y11 parents were able to attend the Revision Evening in November. If not, there is plenty of help available for pupils direct from staff, and our website has subject specific exam revision advice for Y11's. Look under 'Parents and Pupils / Year 11 support'

I am always concerned about the safety of our pupils travelling to and from school, particularly on dark nights going home. Please can I ask you to remind your children that the best practice advice on Worcestershire bus routes, when dropped off, is to wait for the bus to leave before attempting to cross the road. Pedestrians are often unsighted stepping out from behind buses, with potentially awful consequences. We continue to check seatbelts

every night on the buses, and I hope parents will also reinforce that message to the young people about the need to wear belts all the time. You can read later in this newsletter from some Y11 pupils who attended a road safety presentation, 'Dying to Drive', at Worcester Fire station, which seems to have been thought provoking and very useful.

On a lighter note, the school is extremely busy after school every night at the moment with rehearsals for Bugsy Malone, showing next week Tuesday – Thursday. The time, effort, commitment and talent on show is remarkable and it promises to be an excellent night out. Tickets are still available for some nights; please contact the school office for details. A musical show of this magnitude is a huge undertaking for everyone involved, staff and pupils, and it is a wonderful event to have within the school community. My thanks to everybody involved, and I hope you enjoy the show.

The Autumn term is always a long one. Pupils have worked extremely hard, and we will be issuing reports in the last week of term, acknowledging and praising the efforts they have made and identifying areas for improvement. Please take time to talk these through with your child and reinforce the messages within the report.

Finally, my very best wishes to all our pupils, parents and staff for a happy and peaceful festive season.

Andy Dickenson
Headteacher

achievement and we landed on the Arts, in the widest sense, as a great area to affirm. I also want to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Friends, to acknowledge and affirm the dedication and hard work of the whole staff team, teaching and non-teaching, who played their various roles in enabling the pupils to reach such a great set of results. Thank you.

It has been a great term for the activities of the Friends and it is currently all hands on deck for serving refreshments at Bugsy Malone next week. Please fill in the questionnaire that came on email with your offer of help for the rest of the academic year, if you have not already done so, and return it to Nicola Clear at the school office. A further hard copy will be circulated at the beginning of next term.

Many thanks and happy Christmas!
Paul Wilcox, Co-chair, Chantry Friends.

Goodbyes

We say a sad farewell to Mrs Kathy Doyle this term. Mrs Doyle has worked here at The Chantry School since March 2000 in the role as PE teacher, and from 2009 as Head of Y7 where she has overseen the transition process of pupils coming up to The Chantry from the primary schools.

Mrs Doyle has also been involved in many other things in school. She has taken after-school PE clubs and home and away fixtures, supported the many productions in school and taken many pupils to Llanrug Outdoor Centre in Wales.

We would all like to say a big thank you to Mrs Doyle for all her hard work over the years and wish her a very happy retirement.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Sharon Abbott this term. Sharon has worked at the school for five years in the Finance/Exams office and is now off to pastures new. We thank her for all her hard work here and send her our best wishes for the future.

Fundraising Anna's Run

The final total raised for Anna's Run in the summer was £5,436.27. We would like to thank everyone who took part in the run and those who sponsored. What a magnificent sum—thank you very much.

Children in Need on Fri. 18th November raised £762.25. Thank you to everyone.

Poppy Appeal in school raised £92.26. Many thanks.

Vacancies

Clearview Cleaning Services (Hereford) Ltd. require Cleaners at The Chantry School.

Monday-Friday : 21 hours per week
3.20pm-7.30pm at £7.40 per hour

As part of our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable people, appointment to the post is subject to a satisfactory enhanced disclosure by the Disclosure and

Barring Service. To apply please call Clearview Clearing on 01432 273434 quoting ref. WOC008.

Buses

It has been noticed by the bus drivers recently that some children are travelling on buses other than the one printed on their bus pass. Would parents please note that pupils must NOT travel on any bus other than the one printed on the bus pass. Thank you.

Medication

If your child needs to take medication during the day, please send it with your son/daughter with a note letting us know when it has to be taken. We will keep it in the office, but your child must take it him/herself.

Paracetamol

Paracetamol will only be given to pupils when they have spoken to their Year Head and then we have obtained permission from parents.

Consultation on Proposed Admission Policy 2018/19

The Governing Body of The Chantry School is consulting on proposed changes to the school's Admissions Policy to be applied from September 2018.

Consultation will run from the **30th November 2016 until the 20th January 2017.**

The proposed Admission Policy can be viewed on our website by following the link in the 'Reminders' section.

Any comments, and requests for copies of this document, should be submitted to **Mrs G Hayes, The Chantry School, Martley, Worcester, WR6 6QA**, either in writing or by e-mail to ghayes@chantry.worcs.sch.uk please mark for the attention of **Mrs G Hayes.**

The following change is proposed:

1. An increase in the PAN (Pupil Admission Number) from 145 to 175 for New Intake Year 7, September 2018 onwards.

ADMISSIONS PAN

The proposed arrangement, once determined, is to be applied for admissions to the school from September 2018.

The PAN for existing Year Groups 8 - 11 remains at 145 for 2018.

Digital Leaders Column December 2016

Earlier this term we advertised for two Year 7 Digital Leaders to join our team. Seventy pupils registered their interest and then we received 15 applications. The Year 8, 9 and 10 Digital Leaders read through the applications and put 6 pupils through to interview. Ms Dowding, accompanied by 3 of the Digital Leaders interviewed the pupils and decided on two pupils to join our team. They were interviewed based on their experience, skills and attitude. I am pleased to announce that our Year 7 Digital Leaders are Faith Steele and Elliot Whittaker. We are very excited to see what they can bring to the team and our future projects.

Along with the new Year 7 Digital Leaders, I was appointed the Chairman of the Digital Leaders. My responsibilities include: leading meetings and directing the focus of the group members and representing the group at public events and in school. Thank you to the pupils who applied and gave up their time to be interviewed.

Our next projects are focused around parental involvement, exploring technology in the classroom and providing support for our pupils and staff as well as working with Safer Internet Day 2017 in school and visiting the Digital Leaders' Event in Birmingham to network with other groups from across the Midlands. From myself and The Chantry School Digital Leaders, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Matthew Payne, Digital Leader Chairman

Young Leaders

Cheerleading Festival

On Monday 7th November lots of Young Leaders organised a Cheerleading festival, lots of primary schools took part in this festival and had a great experience. During the festival the children did lots of different warm-ups and exercises which included stuck in the mud, timing exercises and many more. They also had a go at tumbles, stunts and pom-poms. Each group had 20mins to practice their skills and routines and they even practiced to the music. Then at the end all the groups showed a lovely performance and tried their hardest. Everyone had a great time and had big smiley faces at the end. Well done to everyone who took part, we had a very successful experience. *Sophie Mitchell in Y8*

Sports Hall Athletics

On Tuesday 22nd November the annual **Sports Hall Athletics** for Years 5 and 6 took place. All the children appeared to enjoy the range of activities that they participated in and were very enthusiastic, as well as competitive.

The whole event ran smoothly from beginning to end and all the Young Leaders were organised in their roles, allowing the younger children to gain the most out of their experience. *Morgan Watkins, New Y8 Sports Leader*

Y11's 'Dying to Drive' visit to Worcester Fire Station

On 28th November 129 pupils from Year 11 participated for the first time in the multi-agency interactive road safety scheme entitled: 'Dying 2 Drive'. The initiative has already run successfully earlier this year at Worcester Fire Station for other schools in Worcestershire.

Pupils experienced first-hand a hard-hitting road traffic collision (RTC) reconstruction and associated workshops.

The innovative initiative aims to reduce the risks of death and serious injury amongst young road users throughout the county as they start to travel independently in cars or on motorbikes with other young adults.

The session commenced with a hard

hitting road traffic collision reconstruction, complete with live 'casualties' and the three emergency services working together to save lives, as they would in a real life situation. Pupils then witnessed the tragic aftermath of such a crash and the devastating ripple effect it can have on friends and families.

The reconstruction was closely followed by powerful, interactive workshops which were ran by Hereford & Worcester Fire Service (HWFRS), West Mercia Police, Safer Roads Partnership and DHL. During these workshops, the consequences of risky behaviour behind the wheel were explained.

The session concluded with a moving real-life story from a retired firefighter who lost his 23 year old daughter in a road traffic collision.

The trip was organised by Martin Fouweather, Firefighter and Mrs Miles – Head of Year 11. Dave Blinston, Watch Commander said: "It is great to see schools in rural areas such as this one to see the potential benefits to their pupils and organise such a large scale group to participate in the interactive 'Dying 2 Drive' initiative."

Pupils from Year 11 found the trip "informative" "realistic" "a good experience"

Abigail Paley wrote " I found the trip highly beneficial and made me think afterwards – more than I thought I would! It has made me think of the potential risks involved in road accidents. I thought it was well organised, the most moving part was the talk at the end from the fireman who lost his daughter in a car accident. The workshops were good as we got to learn more detail about each section"

Dan Jukes wrote " I thought the trip was very educational and I learned a lot of vital information about driver safety that we would have otherwise been unaware of. It was a much more detailed and hard hitting experience than we had anticipated. It has got the message across to everyone" For more information on Dying 2 Drive, please visit <http://www.hwfire.org.uk/safety-and-advice/road-safety/dying-2-drive/>

WOULD ALL PARENTS PLEASE NOTE THAT NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED ON THE SCHOOL SITE.

Bob's Blog and fundraising news for the Anna Wilkinson Mockingbird Trust

Bob Allison has been fundraising in China – with amazing results! An excerpt from his blog about his charity run below:

Three members of the PE department were asked to run with me at various stages but I think this was to keep a close eye on my well-being. The Head of PE only lasted one lap but never mind. The two young female teachers stayed with me on and off for the first 13 laps but then they had to go off to a communist party meeting. I did appreciate their support along with numerous students who took it in turns to run with me as it can get a bit lonely out there. Also present was the school nurse and two members of the Yangzhou Red Cross, who will arrange the transfer of money to Anna's charity. My plan was to run for 20 minutes, a 5 minute break, run for another 15 minutes followed by a break and run for the last 15 minutes. The plan was to run as many laps as possible within the hour allocation. I was delighted to be ahead of schedule at the first break but only just managed to get the maximum 20 laps completed within the hour. I was pleased with my effort so after a quick chat with the Red Cross representatives, I was off for a nice warm shower.

I had no idea on how successful the fund raising would be, but it soon became clear that a lot of money was being donated. As the money started to flow in, I was amazed with the donations. One grade 1 class of 45 students had collected over 4,200 yuan. It soon became evident the final total was going to be astronomically high and far exceed my initial expectation. The final amount paid into the bank was 77,100 yuan!!! (Exchange rate approximately £1 = 8.5 yuan so a little over £9,000).

Well done Bob! <https://bobslettersfromchina.wordpress.com/>

Y9 trip to the Skills Show on Thursday 17th November

At the skills show there were a variety of different stalls, each very interesting in their own way. It was a really useful day and everyone learned at least one new thing. The people on the stalls were really nice and friendly. Overall it was a very interesting day and we all learnt a lot.

Miss B Marson

THE CHANTRY SCHOOL

PRESENTS ALAN PARKER'S

BUGSY MALONE



DECEMBER 2016

TUESDAY 13TH

WEDNESDAY 14TH

THURSDAY 15TH

TICKETS

£7

BOX OFFICE

01886 887100

STARTS AT

7:30 PM

PLAY BY ALAN PARKER

WORDS AND MUSIC BY PAUL WILLIAMS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH FABER MUSIC LTD

ON BEHALF OF WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC LTD