

Dear Parents and Carers

Following a busy fortnight, the Autumn Term ended on a high. This week students enjoyed a number of reward events in recognition of good lesson gradings. On Monday, Key Stage 3 watched the Christmas Chronicles and on Wednesday Year 10 students visited the Trafford Centre and on Tuesday, the Sixth Form attended their Christmas Ball.

On Thursday evening, past and current students attended our annual Awards Evening (more information to follow in the New Year). We ended 2018 with a whole school celebration assembly, delivered by Mr O'Toole, Headteacher. Certificates, Awards and prizes were given to students who achieved the highest number of house points this term. Thank you to students who wore Christmas jumpers to help raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

We would like to ask students to think carefully about the dangers that surround them when arriving/leaving school and in particular when being dropped off or collected from the car park. Headphones should not be worn whilst in the car park or on school grounds as this impedes hearing and could reduce concentration in what is a very busy area at peak times.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a very merry, safe and restful Christmas break and look forward to seeing students return on Monday 7 January 2019 at 8.40am for a prompt 8.50am lesson start.

Mrs Apperley, Associate Assistant Headteacher

Sixth Form Christmas Ball

The Sixth Form Christmas Ball took place this week at the Macdonald Hill Valley Hotel Golf and Spa. The event was very well attended by Sixth Form students and staff. Students dressed for the occasion and following a three course meal they danced the night away. A fantastic evening was had by all.



Year 11 'Countdown to Success'

On Thursday 17 January 2019 we will be holding an extremely important GCSE information evening for parents and carers of Year 11 students. Exam entry sheets will be issued to enable you to check details of subjects and entry levels. **Provisional** exam dates may also be provided. Directors of Faculty will deliver key note presentations which will help you and your child prepare for GCSEs. You will also receive a booklet which will be an essential guide to success in exams and provide top tips for revision and how to improve learning and memory skills. During the day students will attend a 'Countdown to Success' event at The Marches School where they will receive information and tips on how best to revise for the forthcoming GCSE exams.

Year 9 STEM

We are very excited to announce that our very first STEMfest event will be held on Thursday 17 January 2019 at 5.30pm to 7.30pm for parents and carers of Year 9 students. Details of the event will be sent out in the New year.



Transition

As part of SJT Transition, pupils from Prees Primary School visited and took part in DT Food activities with Mrs Barlow, DT. Pupils decorated cakes made truffles and parcelled the items up complete with Christmas tags. Staff from Prees commented on how they had 'lots of fun and loveliness'.



Carol Service

The annual Carol Service took place at St. Alkmund's Church last Thursday and was a truly fantastic event. Thank you to all those who performed beautifully and thank you to everybody who attended.



Whitchurch 10K

Whitchurch 10K 2019 is just over four months away and with hundreds of entries already confirmed, it is set to be the biggest and the best 10K we have hosted yet.

The race is for all abilities, from those who are running their first 10K, those wanting to post a PB and those who are elite runners.

To register for the race, please click here:

<http://whitchurch10k.niftyentries.com/Whitchurch-10K-2019>.



Year 8 Artwork

Year 8 artists have been busy at work with their animal mask project homework and they look brilliant!



Transition and Reward Trip

Year 11 had a fantastic time in York with the Sixth Form students earlier this month. They enjoyed sampling life in a university city and spending time with their peers.



Degree Apprenticeships

Sean Williamson, who works for the University Centre in Shrewsbury, visited SJT recently to inform the Sixth Form students about degree apprenticeships as an alternative option to university.

Sean mentioned how a degree apprenticeship is the equivalent of a university degree. The apprenticeship does take longer on average than a university course but the student will 'earn while they learn', as the courses do focus more on the employment skills side. The degree apprenticeships are seen as an alternative to university and do not count for less.



Reminders

Term dates for the academic years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 can be found online [here](#).

Sir John Talbot's School

Prees Road, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2BY

T: 01948 660600

E: sjadmin@mmat.co.uk

W: www.sirjohntalbots.co.uk