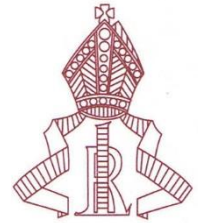


# Bishop Luffa School

2021-2022 Issue 2

December 2021



*Dear parents, carers and friends of Bishop Luffa School,*

*Thank you for your support during this challenging year. We are blessed by our community and feel the power of your prayers in times like these.*

*Despite the challenges, many of our long term plans have come to fruition in 2021. In the Spring, we were given permission to make Rumboldswyke Infants into a Primary School and our students now lead weekly Worship sessions there.*

*This September we opened a new facility called 'Launchpad' that aims to help students who are struggling with mainstream school and need more support. There is more good news about Launchpad below.*



*2021 was also the year when we realised our dream of having a School Chaplain. Seeing Father Steve preach at our Carol Service was one of the highlights of the year, as the Youth Service that he has started on Thursday evenings is a highlight each week. The service is attended by primary age students from across the local community and seems to grow in number every week.*

*I hope you enjoy reading about our term. What Bishop Luffa students have achieved this year shows the power of these words:*

*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it." John 1:5.*

*Have a very merry Christmas!*

*Austen Hindman, Head Teacher.*



## Launchpad Breaks New Ground

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Luffa Launchpad has received planning permission from South Downs National Park for the development of their purpose built site at Lavant House.



Students have been involved in marking out the site and have been considering the planting that will surround the classrooms. As part of this a number of the students will be discussing their ideas with the landscape architect as we finalise the design ahead of construction, which is planned for the new year. We would like

to thank our partners Launchpad Charitable Trust for all the time and commitment they have invested into the project.

**Mr S Williams, Deputy Head**

## Bishop Luffa Remembers

The whole school community came together in solemn remembrance on Armistice Day, with students and staff gathered on the field for a service of commemoration, including two minutes



silence at 11am. As well as prayers and thoughts, the short service included wreath laying, and the sounding of 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille' (by Freddie Lynas – 100tter).

After a virtual service last year it was humbling and heartening to see the School come together in person to mark this important event. The conduct of the students was superb, within, and either side of the service. In the build-up to the service, tutor groups had reflected on the meaning of remembrance, and have had the chance to buy poppies. The service ended with Funmi Ajayi (one of our School Captains) dismissing the students by blowing a whistle used in the trenches – the sound of which gave

our students a tangible link to those events over a century ago. Along with the Spitfire that flew overhead, and the birdsong that punctuated the two minute silence, it added to the solemnity, and poignancy, of the event.

As Mr Hindman mentioned within the service, we can only aim to enjoy 'life in all its fullness', partly because of the sacrifice of those we remember on this day.

**Mr J Barnett, Head of Humanities**

### **Year 9 RE Students Challenged and Inspired ...**

**I**n November, across three separate virtual presentations, Year 9 students have been able to hear Frederick Naftel present his personal view on 'Antisemitism, past and present'. Eddie in Year 9 writes... "I found the speech from Freddy Naftel really interesting because it taught me about how it really was to be a Jew during the Second World War. Hearing from someone who has had relatives die and suffer because of their religion really enlightened the class. I think that it was useful because it showed us what it is really like from a different perspective, not reading from an article or video so the class was more engaged. The class found it interesting and we all really enjoyed it. It showed what a party can do if they are put in power and how bad antisemitism is."

**Mrs A Smith – Assistant Head, Christian Ethos & Distinctiveness**

### **Ridgeway House's Charity Christmas**

**O**n Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December students at Bishop Luffa celebrated our annual Reindeer Run in support of Chestnut Tree House. Together we raised a staggering £863, which beat last year's total by more than £100. A huge thank you again to the students and their families for their generosity to such a worthy cause. Below is a picture of students and staff having completed the run in our Sports Hall. It was a magnificent way to end the week and a joy to see so many involved and having such a good time.



Once again thank you to our wonderful students and their parents and carers for the incredible support of our annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal on behalf of Chichester Rotary Club. Bishop Luffa, along with other local schools, filled shoeboxes with gifts to be flown to such places as Montenegro and Romania to be delivered to children for whom Christmas is a much less happy time of year than for most of us.

I am continually humbled by the generosity shown with events such as this and needless to say it will make a huge difference to the lives of so many underprivileged children. This annual event encapsulates the ethos of our school at its very best.

**Mr J Vann, Head of Ridgeway House**

## Supporting Chichester Food Bank

Chichester District Food Bank (CDFB) opened in September 2012 with support from seven local churches. They provide emergency food parcels for families and individuals in crisis in the Chichester District of West Sussex. The area they cover includes Chichester city, as well as major rural communities in Selsey, Petworth, Midhurst and surrounding villages.



The impact of Covid-19 has affected all areas of our lives and we need to continue to stand united with those who are struggling at this time. In the last year 2020-2021 the Trussell Trust reported another significant jump of 39% of people claiming an emergency food parcel. As part of our outward Christian ethos we are always looking at how we can enable our students to help those around them live life in all its fullness. Food is a basic need which when not met means life gets very difficult.

As a whole school we came together on Thursday 4th November for our third annual Food Bank appeal. It was incredible, yet again, to see so many students bringing in a donation and many donating several items. For example, while they may not weigh much, we had a big

bag full of toothbrushes, sanitary items and a crate full of toothpaste! All of these items, along with all the food, will go a long way this winter to helping those in need in our district. The overall total weight we have donated over the past three years now stands at 2,442.1kg! This means that we have helped 223 people have access to an emergency food parcel in the last three years.

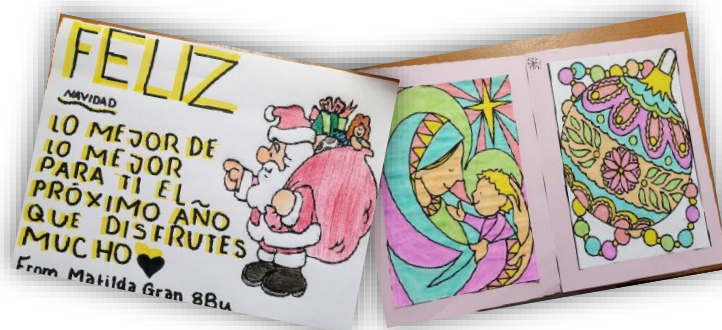
**Mrs R Bradberry, Worship Coordinator**

## News from the Languages Department

We have been very busy in the Spanish department this half term! Year 9 have been writing Christmas Cards to their penpals in Spain and we are very excited about receiving their Christmas letters soon!

We are planning our Spanish Trip to Tenerife! The trip will take place from the 7th to the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and our Year 9 and 10 students will finally have the opportunity to meet their penpals in person. The trip will include:

- Full board, swimming pool and sport facilities;



- Tour of the city and trips to the amazing surrounding beaches;
- Taste of Spanish food, tapas and "chocolate con churros"
- Trip to the top of the Teide volcano.

Plus practicing a lot of speaking with our Spanish friends! Parents and carers will be receiving a letter with more information after Christmas.

**International Links:** We are very excited to announced that this term we have welcomed 41 students to the International Award Team. The Team has been very busy creating an International Christmas Video in which students, staff, parents and our partner schools abroad have contributed reading a few sentences from the poem " A Visit from St Nicholas" by Clement Clarke Moore. We hope that everyone enjoys watching the video <https://vimeo.com/657363442/1dc2635c01> Merry Christmas from everyone at the International Award Team!

Some of our Year 9, 10, 11 and 13 French students received Christmas presents and letters from their French penfriends this week. One of our partner schools is called College Albert Camus, in La Norville, France.

There was much excitement as students discovered how their penpals celebrated Christmas in France and the different traditions they have. They are now busy writing their letters to send back!

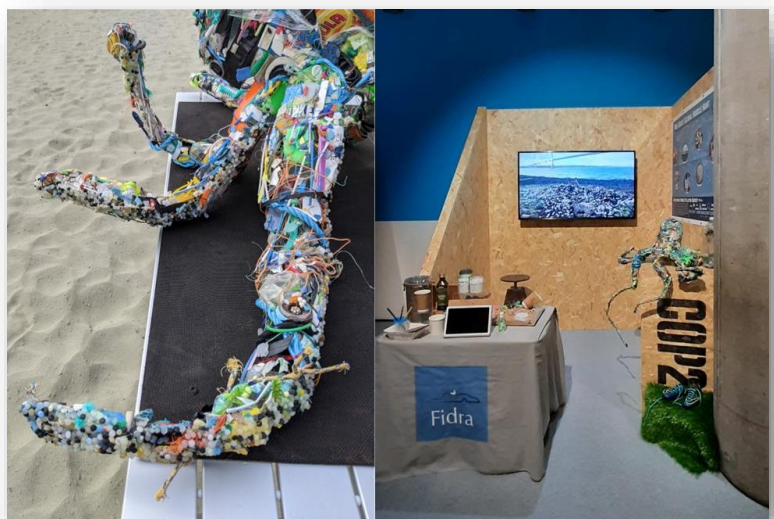


Mrs K Christie, Head of Languages

### Sixth Former's EPQ 'Ollie the Octopus' stars at COP26

We are very excited and proud to announce that Elise Pullen's (13Andrewes) Extended Project Qualification artefact has been displayed at COP26 in Glasgow. In order to combat plastic pollution she created an Octopus, later nicknamed Ollie, to raise children's awareness of microplastics on West Wittering beach. She has been awarded an A\* grade.

Elise commented, 'My project asked 'Can I create a sculpture that raises awareness about marine plastic pollution on West Wittering beach?' with particular reference to 'nurdles', lentil-sized microplastics that are melted down at sea to form almost all plastic products, but resulting in 200,000 tons spilled annually.



Using litter collected from several beach cleans I made a life-size sculpture of an octopus. During my research, I contacted 'The Great Nurdle Hunt', a charity run by 'Fidra' to reduce nurdle pollution through beach cleans or 'hunts', to cite some of their facts and statistics. I ended up sending the sculpture to them in Scotland to use in festivals, and a few days ago they sent an email saying their representatives took him to COP26! They said everyone loved him and they chatted to some interested individuals and international delegates.'

The majority of our Sixth Formers undertake an EPQ in year 12, many writing extended research-based essays and some creating artefacts. A range of universities now give lower alternative offers to applicants with an A or A\* in the EPQ. For more information see: <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/sixth-form/a-level-curriculum/epq/>

**Mr J Saunders, Head of Sixth Form**

## Bishop Luffa hosts its 1<sup>st</sup> Whole School Careers Fair

**A**t the end of November Bishop Luffa hosted its first whole school Careers Fair. Over 40 exhibitors from education, training and employment attended to talk to students about the range of options and pathways available to them. Representatives came from Further Education such as Chichester College and HSDC, top Universities such as Exeter and Bristol, and employers such as Chichester Festival Theatre, Police, Goodwood, the Army, and The Science and Technologies Facilities Council.



Students completed a Careers Fair Bingo sheet which helped them ask relevant questions to our exhibitors - a winner was drawn from each year group and received a prize from Montezuma's. All year groups attended the fair and interacted purposefully and enthusiastically with the exhibitors. There was a real buzz in the Hall and the students got a lot out of the day. Feedback has been really positive from everyone involved with exhibitors being very impressed with the students – a selection of quotes from exhibitors:



*'You should be really proud of the children.'*

*'There aren't enough words to describe how good the kids have been.'*

*'The young people were all very good and interacting with us which was great. Had some very interesting conversations'*



We are always looking for organisations who can offer employer experiences to students such as work experience, employer talks, attending the careers fair - if any parents/carers work for an organisation who would like to be involved in future employer events, please contact Mrs Hopp on [hoppa@bishopluffa.org.uk](mailto:hoppa@bishopluffa.org.uk)

**Mrs A Hopp, Careers & Work Experience Coordinator**



## A Virtual Debate with Wellington Grange

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November Bishop Luffa had their first virtual debate with Wellington Grange Care Home in Chichester. Wellington Grange had been in touch with the school asking whether some of their residents who currently take part in a creative writing class, could set up a debate club with some of our older students. Many of the residents are in their 90's but they are still very much interested in the world and passing on their hard earned experience and knowledge. They were also keen to learn from the younger generations.

The topic for the debate was 'Should Britain have a Monarchy?' Barbara, Chloe, Pen and Jean from Wellington Grange were on the affirming team, and David Nelson (13Andrewes), Iona Hamilton

(11Story), Ella Saxton (11Sherborne) and Alex Gyopos-Cooke (11Wilson) were on the negating team. Throughout the debate both teams discussed ideas about the monarchy, democracy, justice, the economy, the role of the media and mental wellbeing. It was a truly engaging debate. Afterwards, we all enjoyed freely discussing our views about Britain's monarchy and democracy, and we are hopeful to have another virtual debate in the new year.

**Mrs J Sherlock, Teacher of English**



## National Poetry Day Competition Winners Announced

On National Poetry Day, The English Faculty ran a poetry writing competition for Years 7 and 8. This year's theme was: Choices. We had some wonderful responses, which Mrs Sherlock, Ms Machado and the team thoroughly enjoyed reading. Congratulations to the well-deserved winners: Rachel Cole (8An), Eddie Lake (8An), Chloe Darling (8An), Freddie Jones (8Bu), Sophia

McWilliam (8Bu), Olive Kus (7King), Niamh Clark-Lyons (7King), Natalia Zyromska (8King), Jake Laughton (8Ot), David Morris (8Ot) and Nathan Goodge (8Ot).

**Mr S Collins, Head of English Faculty**

### Eco School News

**T**hank you to Chichester District Council who recently provided us with 20 trees which members of our Eco Club planted in the school grounds.



### Sixth Form Fashion Show 2021

**A**gainst all the odds the Sixth Form pulled off a fabulous Fashion Show this year and have managed to raise over £4,000 for their three charities: Grassroots, Sussex Snowdrop Trust and Young Minds. Huge congratulations to everyone who took part and in particular Emily Sammut (13Sherborne), Steven Hughes (13Sherborne) and Maisie Tate (13Sherborne) who put the whole event together.

**Mr J Saunders, Head of Sixth Form**





## Grace is a Star Jumper

**C**ongratulations to Grace Bishop (10Otter) who has recently completed a month-long star-jumping challenge, raising over £1,000 for Brain Tumour Research. For the challenge Grace had to do 100 star jumps a day during the month of November.

Grace undertook the challenge in memory of her grandad, John Bishop and her mum's goddaughter who both lost their lives to brain tumours.



## Bishop Luffa Students Perform at 'Dance House'

**A**fter a long wait, Bishop Luffa School were finally able to perform in *Dance House* at The Alexandra Theatre in Bognor Regis alongside other local primary and secondary schools. This year it was the turn of our Year 11 BTEC Dance students to perform to a packed audience.

As part of their BTEC Dance studies, the students are required to explore and learn professional dance repertoire. The group studied a dance film by Andrew Winghart created to and inspired by 'Cry Me A River' performed by Justin Timberlake. Key motifs and moments from the original work are intertwined with new ideas from the dancers.



We are so pleased the dancers finally performed this piece, which they created with Miss Inch in December 2020! Their performance was stunning and highlighted their dedication and hard work. All of the dancers rehearsed tirelessly prior to the performance and we are so proud of them all.

The organisers were full of praise for our Year 11 dancers not just for their dance ability but also for the way they conducted themselves in the theatre.

**Miss J Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty**

## Year 8 have fun at the Winchester Science Centre

On 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December the whole of Year 8 had the opportunity to visit the Science Centre over at Winchester. Students shared their thoughts on what they enjoyed about the trip,

"The Planetarium was fun because we could visually see what is out there as we moved through the universe, with all the different planets. I also enjoyed the science section with all the things you can interact with. (Jewles Hickman 8Wilson)

"The best bit was controlling the robot. Overall it was a fun day and I had lots of laughs with friends, whilst learning lots of science too." (Noah Thompson 8Wilson)

The trip was a great success and on both days two coaches full of excited students left school after tutor time, returning at 3pm. The trip consisted of a 45 minute excellent Planetarium experience, where the students learnt about constellations, the planets, about our Sun and what a black hole is - a well-presented show aimed at KS3 student's curriculum content.

The Science Centre also had two interactive areas, where students spent half an hour at a time immersing themselves in the exhibits related to STEM topics. One area was specifically for Exploring Space. The other area included science concepts such as Forces, Sound, Environmental issues and the interaction of organisms in various habitats. The exhibits all had a link to future careers in STEM, so students could see where the science they are learning could lead on to.



The final session included a workshop to build their own bottle rocket in teams, ensuring it had the necessary specifications to go fast and win the final race. The rockets were then launched across the room on strings above using fuel (all fired by the Centre staff!). The students all had a fun filled learning experience and they followed this up back in school with poster designs of their rockets.

**Mrs J Tyler, KS3 Science Lead**

## Dance Insight Day at University of Chichester

In November Miss Lawlor took a group of dance students to attend the Dance Insight Day at the University of Chichester. Specifically aimed at Year 12/13 students, the event offers a valuable opportunity for young dancers to learn about a wide range of undergraduate dance degree courses on offer.

The group of students included our current Year 13 A Level Dance students and Year 10 BTEC Dance students



who really rose to the challenge!

The timetable for the day included

a keynote speech, a campus tour, participation in a contemporary dance technique class, an inspiring performance by current University students and a Q&A with staff and students.

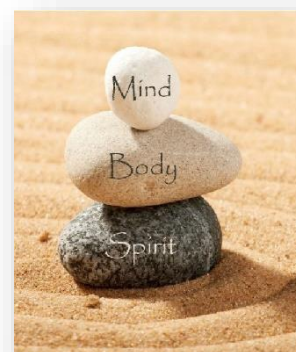
It was an enjoyable day and the students really enjoyed finding out about a range of dance pathways and watching live performances again!



Miss J Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty

## Wellbeing @ Bishop Luffa

As you may already be aware, we are working hard to support and develop the Wellbeing of everyone within our community. All staff and students have been invited to join the **Wellbeing @ Bishop Luffa Google Classroom (code wbiqgsb)** for more information about what this means. We are actively seeking ways to **'Thrive'** within school: **Talking, Helping, Resting and Recovering**, gaining **Insight**, shared **Values** and **Exercise**. This has become especially important since the outbreak of the Pandemic, as we have become increasingly aware of its impact upon our well being. But we want our students to **Thrive** at home, with you, too.



As parents and carers, we are often inundated with ideas and suggestions for how to make the young people we love feel better. This can, at times, make it difficult to know where to start. Helpfully, West Sussex County Council have created an area on their website for a one stop shop of suggestions which are quick and easy to use. You don't have to be in crisis to use these tips or suggestions. In fact, it's a very good idea to take a look and get some information so that, if the need arises, you feel more ready in knowing what to do next.

Visit [https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/your-mind-matters/?utm\\_source=social+media+&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_term=&utm\\_content=website&utm\\_campaign=your+mind+matters](https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/campaigns/your-mind-matters/?utm_source=social+media+&utm_medium=facebook&utm_term=&utm_content=website&utm_campaign=your+mind+matters) for more information.

**Mrs L Watson, Assistant Head – Wellbeing Strategy**

## Sporting News

Our students have had some fantastic sporting achievements this half term. The Bishop Luffa sailors raced in the 29th National Grand Prix at Royal Lyminster YC. 40 boats. Two days' of racing. Eight races. Charlie Gran (10Burrows) and his crew came 2<sup>nd</sup>, Gwen Sargent (11Burrows) and her crew came 11<sup>th</sup> and second girls (first girls British Sailing Team – adults), and Johnny Sargent (10Burrows) and his crew came 17<sup>th</sup>. Max Sydenham (11Andrewes) and his crew came 24<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to Poppy-May Pallett in 9Sherborne, who qualified to represent the South East region in the women's artistic gymnastics national finals at the beginning of November.

## The Debating Society goes from strength to strength

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December two teams from Bishop Luffa School took part in round one of the ESU Public Speaking Competition. Iona Hamilton (11Story) was the speaker for Team A. She gave an engaging speech on the following topic: *'Learning philosophy is as valuable as learning mathematics'*. She was supported by Hannah Carr (9Sherborne) as chairperson, Esther Sutton (9Ridgeway) as questioner and Alexandru Antoniu-Martin (9Wilson) as the timekeeper. Ella Saxton (11Sherborne) from Team B delivered a thought-provoking speech on this topic: *'Electronic Messaging is destroying true friendship.'* She was supported by Josh Kerr (9Sherborne) as chairperson, Rupert Reddington (9Otter) as questioner and Grace Zheng (9Ridgeway) as timekeeper, and James Morrow (9Ridgeway). The judges score each member of the team and it is the teams with the highest overall score who go through to the next round. Both teams were runners up and will therefore will take part in the branch final in the new year. A special mention must go to Esther Sutton who was awarded 'Best Questioner' for the entire round. Congratulations!



**Mrs J Sherlock, Teacher of English**

## Student Wellbeing

We knew, when we came back in September, that this was going to be a year like no other. We have learned so much from our experiences of online school, keyworker school, lockdowns and the pandemic as a whole. The school's Wellbeing at Bishop Luffa Google Site: <https://sites.google.com/bishopluffa.org.uk/life-in-all-its-fullness/home> offers some insight into what we're doing, support that's available for students, families and staff, and includes a half termly newsletter. Please do visit the site if you'd like to know a bit more about what we're doing to help everyone in the community live life in all its fullness.

**Mrs L Watson, Assistant Head – Student Wellbeing**

## PSHE Lessons

The following topics will be covered during PSHE lessons during the Autumn term (but may be subject to change).



If you have any concerns about the topics being discussed please contact your child’s Head of House or Mrs Smerdon-Corp, Teacher in charge of PSHE ([smerdon-corpc@bishopluffa.org.uk](mailto:smerdon-corpc@bishopluffa.org.uk)) The following subjects are being covered from January 2022 onwards – Years 7 to 10 are covering RSE.

<b>Year 7</b>	Respect and Relationships Friendship Being positive Peer Pressure
<b>Year 8</b>	Introduction to sex education Healthy relationships Dealing with conflict Sexual orientation Online safety Grooming Online protection Substance misuse
<b>Year 9</b>	STIs Contraception Sexual harassment/stalking HIV Self Esteem Male reproductive system Female reproductive system HBT bullying Grief and Loss Media and airbrushing Cancer prevention
<b>Year 10</b>	FGM Nudes Pornography Domestic abuse Sexual assault Sexualisation of the media
<b>Year 11</b>	Revisiting Contraception and STIs Respect and Relationships Sexual Harassment Organ and Blood donation Teenage pregnancy Testicular and prostate cancer Breast and Ovarian cancer

## Reminder on Cycling Safety to School

It is great that so many of our students and staff cycle to school. Here are a few reminders to keep you safe:

- Cycle helmets must be worn.
- You need to always have working lights on your bike which are switched on.
- You should always wear high visibility clothing so that you can easily be seen.
- A reflective cover for a ruck sack is recommended.
- Always check your brakes and tyres before setting off.
- Always use the cycle paths.



Mr A Jackson, Assistant Head – Student Behaviour & Ethos

## Prayers

The Parents' and Carers' Prayer and Support Group have suggested that we circulate a school prayer list, so that families can reflect the present concerns of the school in their prayers. We will aim to update the list every month.

### Prayer List:

*Every month:*

- Students and their families
- All our staff
- Our Directors
- Our Chaplain, Clergy Team and Youth Workers
- Our Worship team
- Our Parents and Friends Association
- Our Christian Union
- Our links to the wider church
- House and Sixth Form Charities

*For January:*

- All Year 13 students preparing for Mock Exams
- Students in Year 11 who have formal assessments to complete
- Year 9 students choosing their options
- Everyone involved in the school production of 'Oliver!'
- All staff and volunteers running our Lateral Flow Tests

## School Calendar

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Year 7 return to school @ 8.05am Year 10 return to school @10.45am Year 11 attend Covid testing from 3.00pm – 6.00pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 8 & Year 11 return to school @8.05am Sixth Form attend Covid testing from 3.00pm – 6.00pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 & Sixth Form return to school @8.05am
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 13 Mock Exams Week
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 Parents & Carers Consultation Evening
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Year 7 Parents & Carers Consultation Evening
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 13 Parents & Carers Consultation Evening
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term