

11 November 2022

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

REMINDER: the school will be closed on Friday 25 November 2022

Extra-Curricular - Debate Club

St Mary's Debate Club has completed its second week of debating. Over the course of the two weeks, students have debated whether violent video games should be banned, in addition to non-violent criminals being sentenced to community service as opposed to prisons. In doing so, students have been able to engage in interesting debates, as well improving their oral literacy by formulating their arguments in addition to counter arguments. In turn, students written work will also see a positive impact in terms of their reasoning and justifications. Students have enjoyed debating ideas, as well as mixing with students from different year groups.

Debate club takes place every Tuesday in HU1 from 3:30-4:30 and is open to every student in the school!



Maths

On the Tuesday 4th October, our year 12 and year 13 mathematicians took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. This national challenge consists of 25 maths problems which test students' logical thinking, ability to problem solve, and extension of understanding to the mathematical ideas they cover in their maths lessons.

In year 12, Quincy Wilson was awarded a bronze award and achieved the top score in his year group
In year 13, James Fitzpatrick was awarded a bronze award and achieved the top score in his year group.

Well done to all those that participated! For anyone who would like to take part next year, the UKMT website has a comprehensive collection of past papers which can be used for practice.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354

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Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

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These challenges are meant to be fun, and are meant to push you out of your comfort zone, so they are an excellent resource for students who enjoy a challenge.



Mathematician of the Moment

The maths team have launched a half termly celebration to honour the hard work and dedication over the course of the year named “Mathematician of the moment”.

Every student has a chance to be nominated by their teachers, who will be looking for acts of high effort, going the extra mile in and out of the maths classroom.

Activities such as completing extra work at home consistently using the Sparxmaths website, or asking, thoughtful questions in class are some ways that will improve maths attainment outcomes, as well as being recognised by their maths teacher.

Wednesday 19th October was the first celebration where 24 of our students from year 7 to year 13 were invited for a hot chocolate prize giving ceremony to acknowledge the effort put into their maths.

Congratulations to this half terms nominations:

Daniel Telega, Archie Barnes Tooley, Matthew Nkrumah, Ryan Keohan, Ivian Varbanovm, Sheri Kurtulmus Aston Swaby, Mehmet Akses, Shanay Allen, Aaryan Patel, Riddick Tuah, Gokcer Akkuyu, Anieshka Kabongo Lexie-May Ruggles, Tiannah Finegan, Bruce Elsom, Agata Pieczonka, Ruel Mupararano, Stepan Lucivs Karolina Aver, Hannah Oledigbo, Tamsin Purser, Drew Parsons, Matas Valentinas

Ivian (pictured below) was nominated for showing great enthusiasm for the subject. Eager to contribute to class discussions. Gladly perseveres through challenging work.

Aston was nominated for showing resilience in maths and completing work to the best of his ability.

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Performing Arts

CSAW Production – David and Goliath.



The Church Schools' Art Workshop was set up about 15 years ago with one mission:

To work together as a community in God's Love to provide opportunities to showcase the talent of the local church primary schools, with the modelling and support of St Mary's to inspire the performing and creative artists of the future.

This year's production of David and Goliath saw students from Holy Trinity, Ponsbourne St Mary's, Dewhurst St Mary and Forty Hill Church of England Primary Schools join a select group of performing artists from St Mary's in making a spectacular, energetic performance.

We enjoyed a full house in the Main Hall and the process has re-ignited the CSAW project, it's members now very excited to continue with this tradition and look forward to the next event.

The Borough of Broxbourne Annual Civic Service

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A select group of the St Mary's Phoenix Singers attended the Annual Civic Service at St Mary the Virgin Church and performed a beautiful sung version of The Creed on Sunday 30th October. This was a great opportunity for us to support the local church community and showcase the talent of the young performers who are entering what is going to be a busy season of singing this half term. We especially look forward to returning to the church for the Annual Christmas Service on December 13th, where the full choir will be joined by some representatives of our local primary school partners for a festive celebration by candlelight.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this edition and wish you and your family a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Nicholas Simms
Head Teacher

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