

Leadership and Management

A Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

The dreadful events in Orlando and Birstall recently have highlighted the hatred that some members of society feel towards each other. Thankfully, we live in a world where there is far more good than evil, although sometimes the news seems to suggest otherwise. Putting aside any political agenda, the values that were used to describe the approach of Jo Cox MP seem to be ones that could be applied to any, and all, walks of life, particularly within a place like our own Academy. Those values, articulated by the Prime Minister in paying tribute to Jo Cox, are: Service, Community and Tolerance. Values-based education is not a new concept and the vast majority of schools, both church and non-church, embrace a system of values. In many Primary schools it is not uncommon to see the stated value for that week or term displayed prominently in entrance halls, on websites or in classrooms. Within the Academy, we are currently re-examining our own values system and will be sharing this with you in the near future.

In terms of 'service' and 'community', it was a genuine pleasure to represent the Academy at a recent event held in the gardens of Buckingham Palace to mark the Diamond Anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. I was accompanying Michelle Watt, the D of E Co-ordinator for the Academy, who does outstanding work in delivering the scheme to our students. As well as having the pleasure of meeting with the actress Anna Friel, our group was introduced to HRH Prince Philip, who spent some time discussing with Michelle her own Gold Award experience, which she had achieved as a student a few years ago! He was very keen to know how young people tackle the volunteering aspect of the scheme, which very much encompasses the values of

service and community. I hope that more of our students will take up the opportunity to experience the Award Scheme in the coming years.

This will be my final newsletter contribution for this academic year. Our students and staff have all worked very hard and I am sure they are all looking forward to a well-earned rest over the summer period. I hope the weather is a little more generous than it has been in recent months. I do particularly want to thank all the staff for the contribution they have made this year and particularly to Liz Furber and her Senior Leadership Team who took over the Academy at a very difficult time and have set about their task with real determination. Thanks also to my colleague governors and the two Sponsors who continue to provide me with tremendous encouragement and the value of their wisdom. Final thanks go to parents and carers. I hope you feel there has been greater communication and interaction with you over recent months and we do genuinely value your support. I have been in the Academy on a number of occasions where I have seen parents come in at short notice to support their child over a whole range of issues.

I wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

David Fraser
Chair of Governors



Leadership & Management

Dear Parents/Carers

The last examinations take place today as our Year 7 students complete their end of year Maths and English papers. I would like to praise all of our students who have entered into the examination period showing resilience and determination.

I would also like to thank the staff for all of the marking they have undertaken, so that the students have a clear idea of the amount of progress they have made and where they still need to improve.

At the Academy, we are looking forward to a fun-filled activities week which has been organised by Mrs Watt and Mrs Granger. You will receive a letter home which details the activities organised for your child. The week is focussed on our Academy and Olympic values: Excellence, Inspiration, Respect, Courage and Determination.

After this week of enrichment activities we will be rolling forward the timetable for the new academic year. Your child will be given a new timetable for the last two weeks where they will meet their new teachers and be placed in their new groups.

I will write again at the end of July, just before we break up for the summer holidays. In the meantime, I would like to thank David Fraser, the Chair of Governors, for his encouraging message on the front page but, more importantly, for the relentless support shown to the Academy by the entire Governing Body.

Liz Furber
Acting Principal

~ CALENDAR ~

Monday 4th - Friday 8th July
Whole School Activities Week

Thursday 7th July
Awards Evening

Friday 8th July
Year 11 Prom

Monday 11th July
Sixth Form Induction Day

Wednesday 13th July
C&D Showcase Evening

Thursday 14th July
Sports Awards Evening

Friday 22nd July
Last day of term

Year 11 Leavers' Assembly

The Year 11 Leavers' assembly on Friday 24th June was a fantastic ending to a rollercoaster three years. Students dressed to impress and confirmed to us all that they have grown into young adults.

Staff prepared a fantastic assembly, sharing important memories from the students' time at All Saints. As well as a photo montage of the students when they joined us from their middle schools, there were informal awards and a 10 minute video of messages from staff wishing them all well on the next step of their journey.

Staff support was fantastic and many Academy staff attended the poignant assembly to say their farewells. Behaviour was impeccable throughout and the students made everybody suitably proud. There were several occasions when tears were shed by staff and students alike.

All staff at the Academy wish our Year 11 students the very best on their journey post-16 and hope that Results Day in August brings them everything they deserve.

Alison Spicer - Inclusion Manager

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Students responses to marking feedback

The most important thing about feedback, whether verbal or written, is that students act on it. At All Saints, your child's work should be regularly marked using the ASAD format. This contains a section dedicated to student development points which is where your child should express what they did well, how they could improve and what they think their target should be. Student responses are guided and supported by the feedback of the teacher.

We have been working this year to improve student interaction with marking and feedback and would really appreciate your help at home. Please ask your child about the targets they have been given in marking and targets they have set themselves; ask to see their books and see where they are improving. Students must understand that formative comments aid development and progress so it is important they review their marking and understand what is needed from them.

Rachel Bowers

Assistant Principal - T&L and CPD



Show My Homework

Show My Homework

The last newsletter included information about logging on to Show My Homework to check what has been set by your child and to help you support their independent study. Homework continues to be set using this online system, so please make sure you get in touch with the Admin Team if you are still needing a PIN to access the site.

Rachel Bowers

Assistant Principal - T&L and CPD

Timetable and Curriculum

We will be starting our September 2016 timetable two weeks early, although there will be no changes to the start or end of the school day. Our rollover will start on Monday 11th July 2016 when students will be allocated their 2016/17 timetables and start their new courses with their new teachers (where possible). There have been some changes to the academic structure of the timetable and to pastoral arrangements which are not meant to confuse but are for the benefit of all the young people in the Academy.

Banding and setting

We have adjusted the current V and W bands to make the setting in these bands more equal and parallel in ability. In each band there will be two or three sets, depending on the numbers in the year group and the sets will either be by levels or mixed ability, depending on the subject area. Consequently, there may have been a change to your son/daughter's banding but this does not necessarily mean that there has been a change to their ability group. Please refer to your son/daughter's most recent Flight Plan for their level of progress.

Tutor groups

Various factors have been taken into consideration when forming the new tutor groups to ensure that we have great teaching staff in front of all groups, and to maximise our students' progress.

Helen Anton - Assistant Principal

Staying healthy during the Summer months

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school with them every day during the warm weather; there are water machines throughout the Academy.

If your child suffers with hayfever/asthma during the pollen season, please let us know if you would like us to hold their medication in the Medical Room.

Emma Ashley

Student Health & Welfare

Charity

Year 10 Charity Football Event

On Wednesday 15th June Year 10 students took part in a charity football event to raise money for their chosen charity - the local food bank.

Each Year 10 tutor group entered a team into the competition which was won by 10DB. All students involved raised **£35** and I would like to say well done to all those who took part.

Thanks also to Mr Buckley, Mr Gaskell and Siobhan Schliebe for helping with scores, officiating, and playing to support tutor groups.

Well done Year 10!

Mark Gilbert - Head of Year 10



Bedfordshire Higher Education Exhibition

On Monday 20th June 2016, twenty five Sixth Form students visited the University of Bedfordshire to experience a UCAS Higher Education Exhibition. Throughout the event students had the opportunity to speak to representatives from more than 150 Higher Education institutions and found out information about courses, entry requirements, finances and student life. A number of apprenticeship providers, voluntary services and public service representatives also attended the event to share alternative opportunities available after Sixth Form.

The visit was a valuable source of information for the students and we hope that many of them will consider applying for university in the next academic year.

Charlie Small
Deputy Head of KS5
Curriculum Leader for Sport, Health and Leisure

Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare

Keeping children safe on-line campaign

We would like to make you aware of the **Keeping children safe on-line campaign** led by Central Bedfordshire Council and are keen to signpost our parents/carers to advice about online safety.

The campaign offers parents/carers information on how to keep their children safe online, and advice on how to spot signs of online sexual exploitation and where to go if you have concerns. We would like to encourage our parents/carers to have a conversation with their children about the internet to make sure young people are aware of the dangers of sharing information with strangers and taking compromising images. This campaign highlights the signs to look out for that a person is being sexually exploited, such as a sudden or unexpected change in behaviour or receiving unexplained gifts or money.

We encourage you to visit the Bedfordshire Against CSE website and Think U know website for advice on keeping our children safe in a digital world.

Lisa West
CL - Student Support

Positive feedback from a Year 11 student

I wanted to say thanks to Mr O'Rourke and Mrs Gaskell for what they said about me in the assembly. I appreciate it and it means a lot to know there is a big difference now to what I was a year and a half ago.

I have just finished my first week at my apprenticeship and am really enjoying it. I have impressed the workers and even the owner of the company who said he looks forward to working with me in the future. My manager is impressed with the amount of determination and effort I put into doing all jobs, no matter how big or small.

I could never repay those who have helped me and I realise the huge impact the support has made in making me the person I am today. My dream job is within my grasp and I couldn't have done it without everyone at All Saints. Thank you.

Year 7 Computing Club

We have been running a Computing Club for Year 7 students since half term and we have been exploring the potential of the BBC micro:bit.

"The BBC micro:bit, a pocket-sized codeable computer with motion detection, a built-in compass and Bluetooth technology. A collaboration between 29 partners, the micro:bit is the BBC's most ambitious education initiative in 30 years, with an ambition to inspire digital creativity and develop a new generation of tech pioneers."

[<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4hVG2Br1W1LKCmw8nSm9WnQ/the-bbc-micro-bit>]



Students attending the twice weekly club are learning to program their BBC micro:bits with Python. They also get to take their micro:bit home with them to keep. We have a couple of Year 9 students acting as mentors and I they are investigating projects which they feel will inspire the rest of the group. Similar clubs in other schools have seen micro:bits launched into space, amongst other things.

The BBC micro:bit will not be the only focus of the Club moving forward, but it's a great starting point with instant results. We have recently ordered a 3D Printer, and a Camera Drone. We also have some robots to work with.

Well done to all the students involved.



Matthew Brownsett
Teacher of ICT

Our Community

Safe Cycling

We would like to remind our students and families that cycles and scooters are brought onto the school site at our discretion. Students who are found to be riding unsafely on the school grounds or in the local community will be asked to leave their cycle/scooter at home.

We recently received a letter from a member of the public, drawing our attention to students who ride on pavements, in between traffic or with other students on their handle bars. These are all dangerous practices and we will sanction students who are reported to us.

In the morning, we expect students who arrive on cycles or scooters to lock up their bikes and then enter the school building. The cycle racks are on a vehicle access and students may not ride in this area. We thank all of our students who ride safely and carefully every day.

Road closures for Houghton Regis Carnival -

Saturday 9th July 2016

We are sure you are aware that the Houghton Regis Carnival is taking place on the Village Green on Saturday 9th July 2016. The Town Council has asked us to let our parents/carers know that Tithe Farm Road will be closed from 9.00am to 12 noon to enhance the safety of the carnival procession. Discretionary access will be permitted between 9.00am and 10.15am.

The day promises lots of fun with free entertainment for all the family.

Open Day at Dunstable Community Fire Station

Last year was a great success, and with any luck this year will be even better.

Blue Watch are organising an afternoon of fun and learning at the station. The focus this year is to treat the kids to a 'Firefighter Experience', and give them a taste of what it's like to escape a burning building, put out fires with a big hose, save someone using our rope rescue gear, see inside a cut up car and look around our fire engines and special appliances. There'll be a chance to try on fire kit and take plenty of photos!

There'll be loads to learn about with every activity, and a chance for them to meet their local firefighters.

The event will be held on Sunday 17th July 2016 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. It's free to enter and everyone's invited.

Teachers - As well as all the fun, there'll be the opportunity to talk to the junior officers about school visits and even a chance to organise some free books for your school, so please mention us on your staff notice board!

I hope to see you on the big day.

Crew Commander Gernon
Dunstable Community Fire Station
Blue Watch

Poppy Appeal

On 1st June 2016 we received formal notification and thanks for raising £107 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thanks to all who contributed to support the Legion's vital work in providing support for service men and women and their dependents.



Sharon Reid
PA to Principal

Athletics

In May, Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium hosted the KS4 District Athletics Competition and more recently in June the KS3 District Athletics Competition. These two competitions saw over 70 students from All Saints Academy compete in both track and field events. In the KS4 competition *Natasha Hayman, Sampson Asamoah and Kelsey Taylor* all qualified for the County Competition, representing South Bedfordshire, which was held at Bedford International Athletics Stadium on Wednesday 15th June. At this event, four districts compete to become County Champions. The PE staff are extremely proud of Natasha, Sampson and Kelsey. Well done in particular to Natasha who was crowned as the County Champion for the 1500m. In the KS3 Competition the All Saints Academy girls' teams dominated the leader boards for most of the events, achieving 1st place overall. Credit must go to *Madison Bennett, Maggie-Mae Stevenson, Ellie Lloyd, Abbie Jones-Potter, Charise Myrie, Megan Thompson, Lewis McCarthy and Haydon Williams* for fantastic individual performances. For some of the students involved this was their first ever Athletics Competition. All students behaved fantastically and were great ambassadors for our school. But, the real stars of the show were Mr Gaskell's Year 9 Sports Leaders. The event would not have been possible or run as smoothly without them. The Leaders were very impressive, receiving praise from all staff there for their conduct and efficiency. Please congratulate the following students for doing such a great job and for making this event possible. Well done All Saints!!!!

Liam Lindgren

Rian Collier

Ben Acton

Liam Fenn

Cassie Chambers

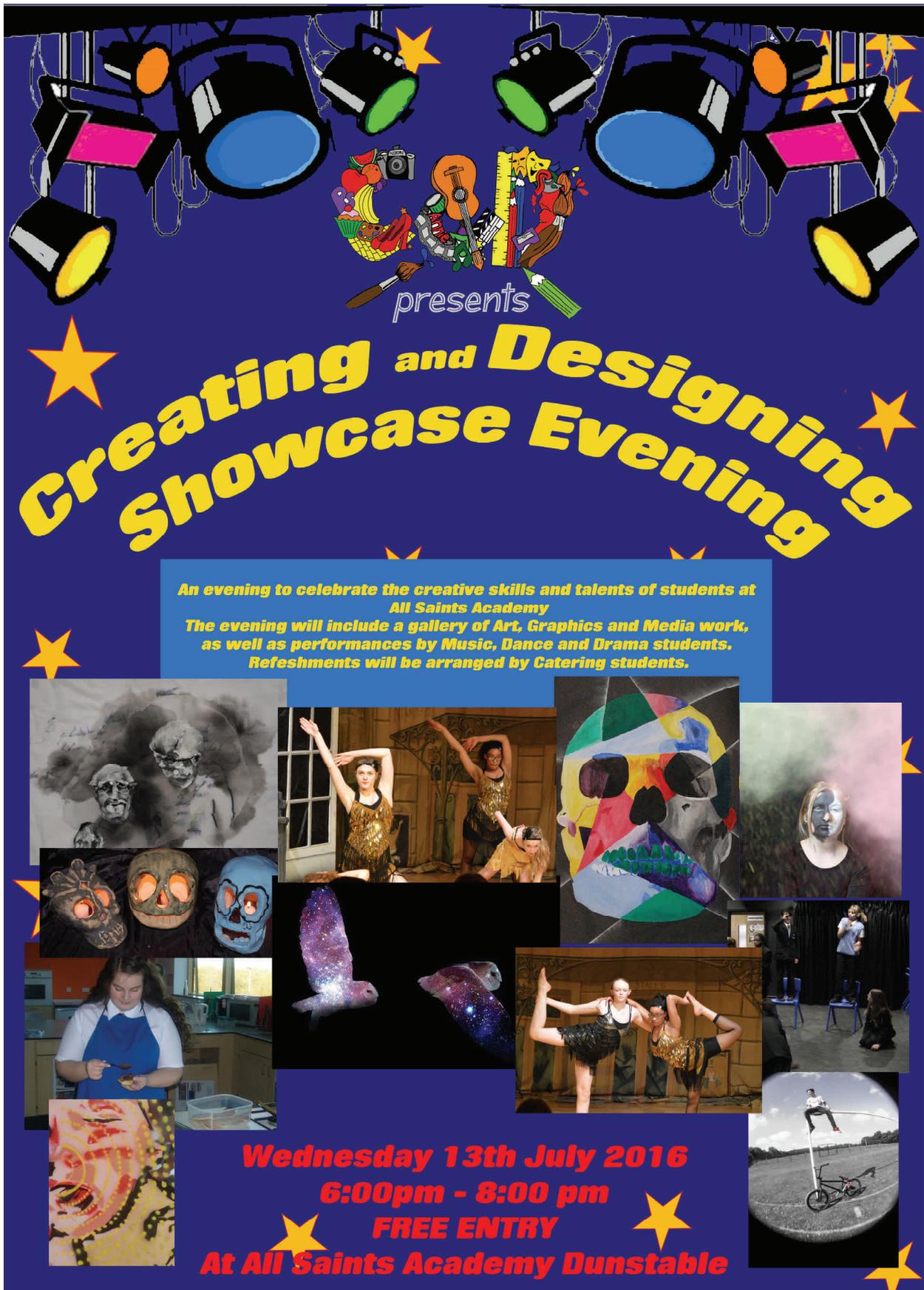
Shauna Stack

Rhiannon Bennett

Monica Sousa



Zoe Broadfoot
Teacher of Sport Health & Leisure



presents

Creating and Designing Showcase Evening

An evening to celebrate the creative skills and talents of students at All Saints Academy
The evening will include a gallery of Art, Graphics and Media work, as well as performances by Music, Dance and Drama students.
Refreshments will be arranged by Catering students.

Wednesday 13th July 2016
6:00pm - 8:00 pm
FREE ENTRY
At All Saints Academy Dunstable