



BGS Welcomes Cultural Exchange Chinese Visitors

Last week, my first Chinese pen pal came to school. He was very nice and asked lots of questions about the school and my life in England. I also found out about his school life in China. Their teachers are much stricter and do not allow any talking in class. School hours in China are also much longer than school time in England. They wake up at around 7am and go home at 6pm. This means they did not have time to do homework and resort to do their homework at school. There are no extra curriculum classes and on top of that they have a tutor for most of their subjects. They also needed to learn instruments. I found it very shocking, since it was completely different from schools in England. He was a very interesting person and liked to do sports like me. At lunch, he liked to play football with me and my friends.



Most of our Chinese class received new pen pals. They seem very intelligent and their English is very good. On Tuesday, we had a Chinese lesson in the lab, but instead of going on the computer they helped us to perfect our speaking. I found the lesson fun because I learned new vocabulary for theme 5, which is International and global dimension. I also learnt more about him through practising the five themes for GCSE. We made a lot of jokes and it was great fun.

Hing Fung Chan , Year 10

The Chinese visitors were very helpful for us Mandarin students because when they were here we could understand more about Chinese culture and life for Chinese students in school. They made Chinese lessons very entertaining as well. They were polite to know good English and often helped us with our Mandarin. We in return also help them to understand new English grammar and language skills. Overall, my experience with them was fun, educational and interesting.

Dixon Junior Gao-Cheung, Year 10



C3L6 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge ~ Well Done Year 12

Well done to the Year 12s that attempted the C3L6 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in June. After a gruelling week trying to get their first drafts of their IB Extended Essays submitted, several students spent their Friday evening with me attempting the exam. They have also been giving up their lunch breaks on Mondays to try practice questions since the New Year, so it was great to see their hard work pay off.

Mr Sethi, Science Department



New Designers July 2019

On Thursday 4th July, I took a group of Year 12 and 10 Design Students to the New Designers Show. This is an exhibition where some of the top designers and engineers get to show their work and the best universities promote their courses. This trip was to allow our students to research methods, materials and ideas for their Independent making projects. The second motive was to **inspire** them to **think** about engineering or design as a future career path as there is currently a world shortage of engineers. The students get the time to speak to the class of 2019 graduates as well as to students who have been successful in the world of design since leaving university. This year, both aims came together perfectly as we ran into **BGS student Kane Fernandes**.

A recent graduate invited to show his work and talk about his business in design which is already up and running. **Kane was a former IB student** who swapped from business to design engineering once arriving at University. He spoke with such passion and joy about his future it was inspirational to our current pupils. Thank you Kane and best wishes for a successful future in design.

Miss Francis, DT Department



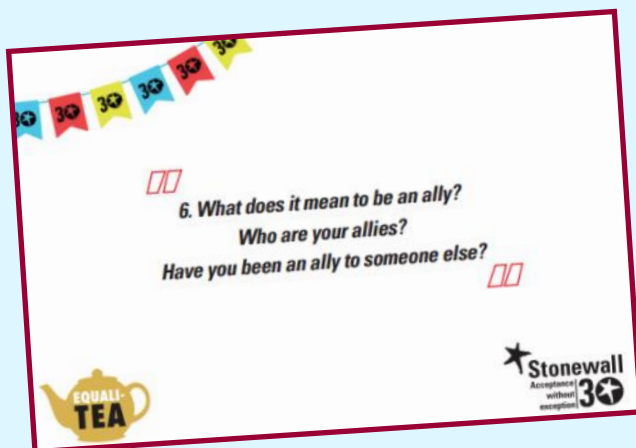
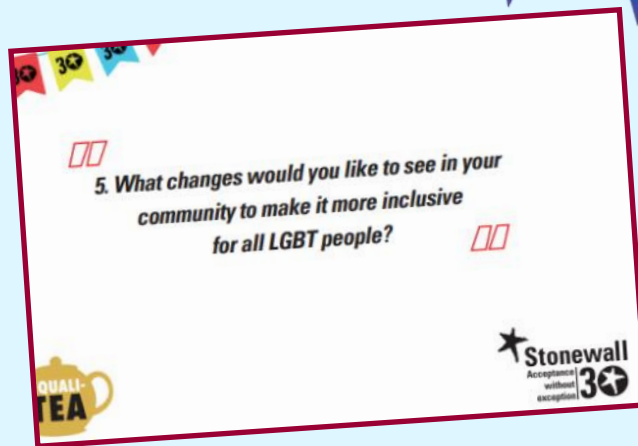
Equali-tea Fundraiser

On Wednesday 10th July, our lovely students in the Pride Youth Network have organised a fundraiser in aid of Stonewall, the charity that champions and campaigns for LGBT+ equality. The initiative, called Equali-tea, was aimed not only at raising funds by selling delicious cakes and tea to staff and students, but also at involving them in conversations about equality (see some examples in the pictures).

Thanks to the effort of our wonderful bakers (including Mrs Chan, Ms Orchard and Miss Brand) and the support of a huge number of students, we were able to raise over £120!! These funds are vital in order for Stonewall to keep promoting equality and reach out to LGBT+ people in need of support.

As ever, I am very proud of what we achieved as a school community, and grateful to Mr Elphick for giving us this opportunity.

Ms Contini, FBCS Department





Without your vital support, we cannot continue our work to ensure acceptance without exception. By bringing your community together for an Equali-tea you can join our campaign for LGBT equality whilst raising money for Stonewall. These are not just words - the impact you have could be crucial.

£6 means we could be there to answer a call from a young LGBT person through our free information service.

£25 could send five packs to teachers around Britain, to give them the skills to tackle homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic bullying in their school.

£50 could fund an LGBT role model to visit a school, tackling negative attitudes head on and helping young people to accept LGBT people without exception.

£100 could allow us to cover the cost of one young person in a hard to reach area to attend a Stonewall Youth Pride event and meet other LGBT young people.

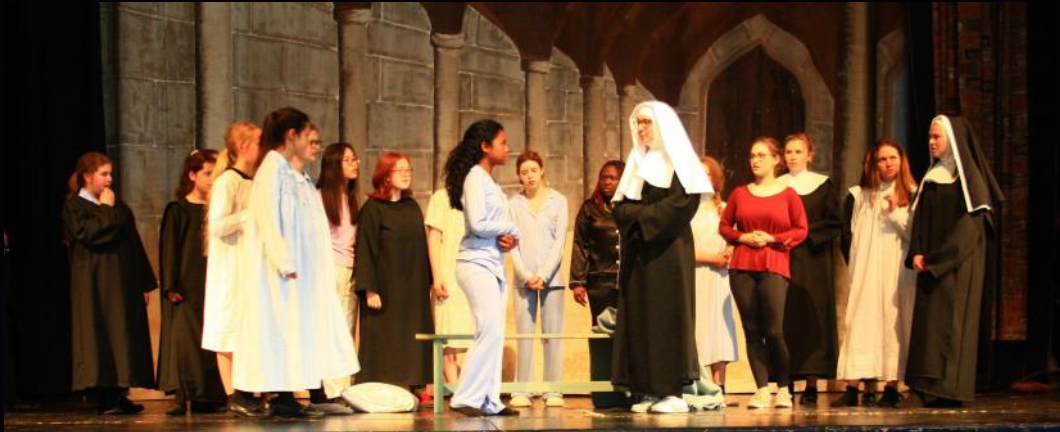
£250 could support one year's worth of costs for Stonewall to meet with MPs, institutions and other stakeholders to lobby them around the Gender Recognition Act (GRA) reform.

£500 could cover the cost of one young person to attend our annual Young Campaigners programme, a five-day residential programme for 16-21 year-old LGBT people to support them to develop campaigns on LGBT issues in their local community.

£1,500 could allow us to bring international activists to the UK, exchanging knowledge and sharing the most effective campaigning tactics to help improve the lives of LGBT people around the world.



Sister Act at BGS



Hallelujah! What a wonderful show this year's offering, 'Sister Act', was for parents, students, staff and families as well as guests and dignitaries. Revolving around Deloris, a sassy disco queen who needs to go into hiding in a convent following a gang murder, Sister Act is a tale of transformation as Deloris battles against a strict and uptight Mother Superior. She wins over the nuns at the convent through her love of music and all things disco, breathing new life into the church community and creating new definitions to the term 'sisterhood' in the convent. In so doing, she blows her cover and finds herself in peril - but the many Marys come together to head off the gang and protect her.

With over 60 students involved, BGS put on 4 performances for audiences. Based on the hit film, songs included 'Raise Your Voice', 'Spread the Love' and 'Sunday Morning Fever', all superbly performed by our cast and professionally accompanied by our student musicians across the year groups. Iarantsoa Ramaneolina (Year 12) took up the lead role Deloris, and performed with aplomb over all four nights. The whole cast has worked hard since January, moving up to two rehearsals each week since Easter as well as two weekend rehearsals. The results were simply stunning, with audiences raving about the performances. Well done to our Sister Act cast and crew 2019 - in the words of Deloris, 'You're all fabulous!!'

Mrs Goddard, Music Department



Jazz Evening 2019

Less than a week after the final performance of 'Sister Act', our jazz groups (led by Mr Laing) took to the stage to perform a number of jazz hits, featuring additions of the string groups, tour choir and junior choir as well as clarinet choir. 'Beyond the sea' was performed sensitively by Big Band, who were accompanying James Walker as he took to the stage to sing the solo. Junior Choir sang with Junior Jazz with Gloria Gaynor's hit 'I will survive', and Big Band also performed 'Play that funky music', 'Blue Monk' and 'Nostalgia'.

Many individuals were showcased at the Jazz Evening through improvised solos, including Dan Tye on flute and Edmund Keeling on Trombone, to name a few. We were also joined on the stage by some of our previous Year 13s - a real privilege to see and hear how they have developed since flying the BGS nest. There are so many impressive talents in the Music department, well done on a wonderful evening!



Mrs Goddard, Music Department

ACM/Metropolis Song Writing Competition BGS Students reach the final!

James Warren (drums), Lucas Zurdo (bass guitar) and I (guitar & vocals), entered the Metropolis Blue song writing competition through the school. Our band, Plummet, won the first round and our prize was a day at a recording studio run by ACM (Academy of Contemporary Music) in Guildford.

Upon arrival at the studio, we were given an enlightening tour of the studio by the man in charge - Simba. There were a range of recording rooms, practice rooms and even lecture rooms around the complex. After that, we were introduced to the wizard who would be producing our track, Aaron (I don't think he was quite of this Earth).

The studio was huge with such treasures as quality amps just laying around waiting to be used (the one I used was a bit of a rarity). We first laid down the basic guitar, drum, bass and guide vocal (the vocal later to be removed) as the basis for the song. Then followed by a guitar solo and final vocal overdub. With Aaron's help we were able to record crisp sounding tracks which sounded like you were in the room - that was before he had even mixed it properly (the sound drum sound he got was incredible)!

We bid Aaron farewell, and left him to do his thing with our recording. It was a fantastic and unique day, and we are all grateful to Mrs Goddard for this experience. Now we wait to hear the final product, and who has won the Grand Final.

George Greenland, Year 9



PE News

A huge congratulations to our champion Year 7 Rounders team, who won the Bexley Rounders Tournament on Thursday at Townley Grammar School. Rounders club has been tremendously popular this year, allowing us to enter two teams into the borough competition. The dedication and commitment to training definitely paid off when our first team managed to secure wins in all matches, scoring an impressive 30 Rounders over the course of 4 matches. Our second team showed great teamwork and versatility, as positions were altered. They came joint third after securing a big win against Blackfen School.

The player of the tournament was Daisy, who displayed some impressive fielding skills and outstanding batting technique, scoring a rounder on almost every bat!

Congratulations girls- we are very proud of you!

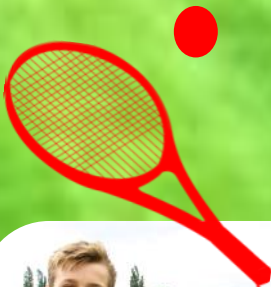
Ms Leffen, PE Department



We're at the end of another year, so it's time for us to thank all the students and staff who have made it such a fun one. These are some of our sports awards winners - from leaders to fundraisers, performers and teams. We are lucky to work with such great young people. Enjoy the last couple of days, and then a brilliant summer. Make sure you get outdoors and run around!

Mr Lines, Head of PE







Class of 2018 - 2019

Inspirational, Successful & Creative

September & October

We kicked off the year with great sporting achievements, an enthusiastic dance group and Alfie interviewed Gareth Southgate



BGS featured in 'The Parliamentary Review'



BGS students were highly commended in the Secondary Leaders Engineering Awards



We travelled far and wide during our trip to Japan

November & December



We took part in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge

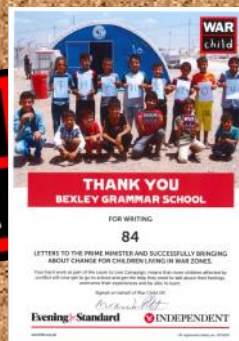


We remembered the Fallen



Sixth Form Culture Club saw performances of 'It's True, It's True, It's True', 'Chicago' and 'The Importance of Being Ernest'

facebook



We helped to secure over 11 million pounds for 'War Child' when we wrote to Downing Street!

We visited the newly fashioned British Facebook Headquarters



A feast of talent with the Music 1B Concert & Annual Christmas Concert



January & February



We participated in the Trinity Schools Book Award and voted 'Ink' by Alice Broadway as our favourite book



Year 9s experienced the 'Beat Goes On' Workshop



Year 8s competed in a Public Speaking Competition



Year 11s visited Westminster Business School

BGS hosted 'Operating Live 2019'



We took part in the Great Rainbow Bake-Off Final



Our Production of 'Charlie' was a huge SUCCESS!



Mia won a gold medal and a cup at the Bromley Music Festival



March & April

World Book Day 2019 was a highlight!



We were fortunate to be visited by Sir Stephen Laws, Senior Civil Service Lawyer



We celebrated British Science Week by taking part in lots of activities



40 IB students from Bergen County Academy, USA, spent the day studying with us

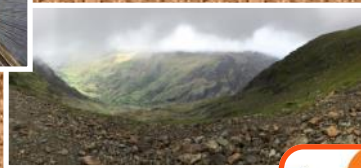


Year 9s presented their Independent Learning Projects

May & June

In May we started reporting on our amazing IB Students 2019 CAS Projects

We continued in June to tell some of the stories from the amazing 1783 CAS projects this year



Work started on the BGS allotment



Fun was had by all at our Summer Fayre & Sports Day!



We celebrated the Chinese Dragon Boat Festival 端午节

We visited Saint-Malo during Enrichment Week



'Midsummer Night's Dream' was the KS3 spring term production

July

We celebrated tremendous results from our first fully IB cohort!



Because of your generosity we have raised more than £25,000 this year for worthwhile causes & to support BGS students
THANK YOU!

MacMillan
Cancer Support
£153



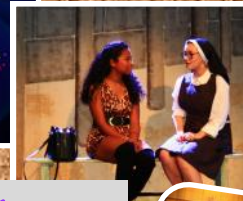
Stonewall Equality
£120



Tommy Crush
Foundation
£1,051



'Sister Act' took centre stage as our summer production and received excellent reviews!



#SuPportOurcouRTS

Support Our Courts
£15,532



BGS PA to
support our
students
£7,000

Salvation Army
£977



Young Minds
£842



News items you may have missed

Advice for parents and pupils from Mr Gilmore

Safeguarding Notice

The Success in Schools safeguarding expert Andrew Hall has pointed to a piece of government guidance for parents and carers regarding the safeguarding of children in summer camps, activity days and child care settings. This voluntary safeguarding code has not been published though a draft document is available and suggests that parents ask questions such as:

- ◆ Have staff and volunteers undertaken DBS checks? How recent were the checks?
- ◆ Will any adults besides the instructor be present at the venue while my child is there? If so, will they be there on a regular basis?
- ◆ What training have staff had?
- ◆ May I have a copy of your child protection policy?
- ◆ Who is your designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and what training have they had? How recent was this training?
- ◆ My child has Special Educational Needs and / or a disability (SEND). What steps will you take to accommodate this?
- ◆ My child needs help with: using the toilet; changing; feeding; their medication, etc. How will these personal care needs be addressed?
- ◆ How are you securely storing the information you hold on my child? Who has access to it and are you giving it to anyone else?
- ◆ Is my child allowed to access the internet unsupervised?
- ◆ Do you have filtering and monitoring systems in place? What are they?

In addition to the questions to ask, the draft guidance for parents sets out some 'red flags' that the might prompt parents to send their children to a 'different setting'. The red flags are:

- ◆ Staff are not DBS checked
- ◆ No child protection policy
- ◆ Signs of abuse on other children who attend the setting, for example, unexplained bruises
- ◆ Provider unable to name a designated safeguarding lead
- ◆ The designated safeguarding lead has not had relevant training
- ◆ If the OOSS allows children access to the internet, no filtering or monitoring systems in place
- ◆ Dangerous physical environment e.g. loose wires, damp, no fire escape, no first aid kit
- ◆ No designated first aider
- ◆ No parental consent form or requirement for emergency contact details
- ◆ Other adults coming into the out-of-school setting who are not staff members / a lack of clarity on the roles of different adults in the setting
- ◆ No health and safety policy
- ◆ No fire escape plan



Parents'
Association

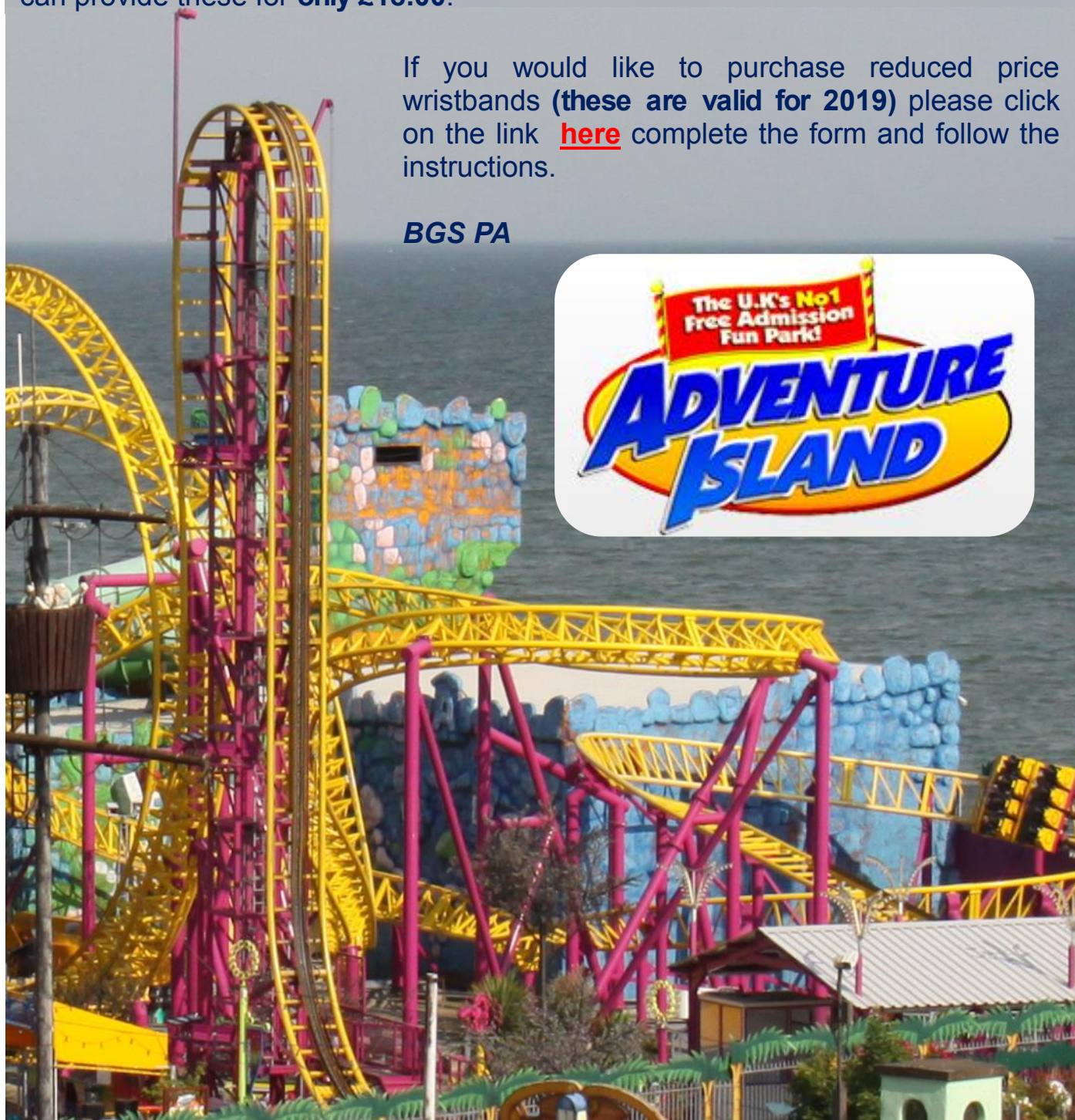
BGS Parents' Association (BGSPA) has yet again been able to secure reduced price ride wristbands for Adventure Island, Southend. Adventure Island is a great day out for all the family, with a wide choice of rides for all ages. Check it out at: www.adventureisland.co.uk.

Although entry is free, purchase of a wristband is required for unlimited use of all suitable rides. Once purchased, a wristband can be used on any one day in 2019 that Adventure Island is open.

For anyone who is over 1.2 metres tall, a wristband would cost £22.50 if purchased online (£32 if purchased at the ticket office on the day). The PA can provide these for **only £18.00**.

If you would like to purchase reduced price wristbands (**these are valid for 2019**) please click on the link [here](#) complete the form and follow the instructions.

BGS PA



Forthcoming Events

July

Friday 19th

Last School Day for all students ~ early finish dismissal at 12.15pm

All students must be off site by 12.45pm

Monday 24th

Inset Day School closed to students

Tuesday 25th

Inset Day School closed to students

August

Thursday 22nd

GCSE Results day 2019 from 9.30am until 11am

September

Monday 2nd

Inset Day School closed to students

Tuesday 3rd Week A

Tuesday 3rd

First day of autumn term at 8.30am, for students in YEARS 7 & 12 ONLY

Wednesday 4th

All students return to school at 8.30am

Tuesday 10th

Inset Day School closed to students



This is the last edition of the Newsletter before the summer break.

Year 7 & 12 students only return to school on Tuesday 3rd September 2019

All students return to school on Wednesday 4th September 2019

Happy Holidays!

