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28 March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of another busy term I wanted to take the opportunity to update you all of news at St Julian's.

With our summer term looming, Key Stage 4 and Post 16 students are now on the countdown to their exams. Display around school show that Y11 will have just 14 days of school left when they return after Easter until their first exam (GCSE Numeracy, 8th May). For all students it is vital that they plan their Easter break wisely - to ensure that they spend time each day revising but also that they get a chance to rest and refresh themselves too: it will be a pressured summer term and the more preparation they can do at home, the better their school days will be.

I am pleased to share with you that over 80% of Post 16 students have applied for university, with a record number of applications to Russell Group universities including Edinburgh, Cambridge and Georgia! In January, we saw our students involved in the Brilliant Club Scholar's Programme graduate from Wadham College, Oxford. They had been working on a PhD project with Cardiff University examining the pharmaceutical industry and 'Selling Sickness'. All students who completed the course passed and incredibly two of our students achieved the highest grading possible (1st Class).

Our Year 12 Chemists have been working in the labs at USW participating in a project examining spectroscopic techniques and our Head Girl, Charlie Cromwell-Pinder, has been working with King's College London where she interviewed world leading music Professor Kenneth Hamilton.

February saw International Women's Week and our Deputy Head Girl, Haseena Ali delivered a number of assemblies to the whole school on the issues still facing women in the 21st century, and how we as a school can make a difference.

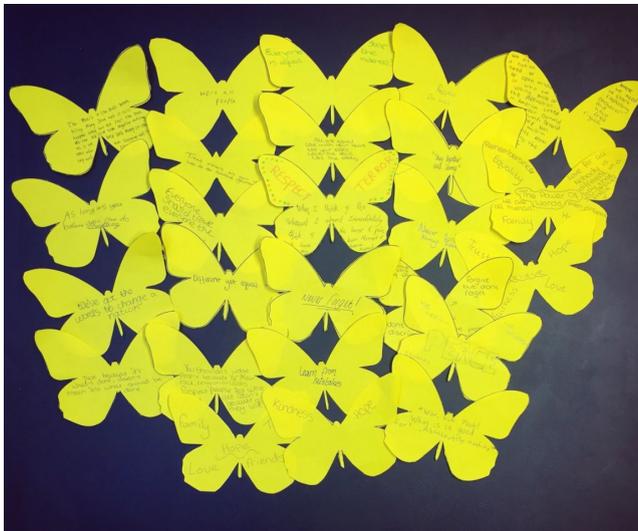
All of our students have been involved in a number of fundraising initiatives helping to raise awareness and money for a number of worthy causes including last Friday's Sport Relief.

Headteacher / Prifathro  
Rhys Evans B.Sc (HONS), NPQH



We would like to congratulate Peter Malpas on his selection and outstanding performance for Wales in the recent Schoolboy Golf Championships in Portugal. Peter played exceptionally well and led the Welsh Team to the final where they narrowly lost to England.

The school commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day with members of our Post 16 Head Team attending services at St Woolos Cathedral and delivering the message back to the younger students in whole school assemblies. The school created a 'Butterfly' project, where messages of hope were written on over 1200 butterflies, remembering the victims of the holocaust and were displayed throughout Main Reception. The butterflies have now been taken down and will be permanently displayed in the Civic Centre. Furthermore, two of our Year 12 students, Gemma Roche and Megan Slocombe, visited Auschwitz in Poland and have become ambassadors for the Letters From Auschwitz Programme.



KS3 students also face assessments next term in terms of National Tests. These will take place over the period 1st - 3rd May 2018. These are in accordance with the requirements set out by the Welsh Government and are aimed at assessing standards in Literacy and Numeracy. Students will sit the tests in the hall for the reading and procedural tests and in classrooms for the reasoning test. All have been partaking in trial assessments in readiness for these tests.

Headteacher / Prifathro  
Rhys Evans B.Sc (HONS), NPQH



The timetable for students over the testing period is as follows:

	Tues 1st May	Wed 2nd May	Thu 3rd May
Year 7	Procedural	Reading	Reasoning
Year 8	Reading	Reasoning	Procedural
Year 9	Reasoning	Procedural	Reading

Please ensure your child is prepared for the tests in terms of the equipment they bring to school on these dates: a black/blue biro; pencil; eraser and ruler is essential for each. In addition, a calculator will be needed for the numeracy reasoning test. We also ask that you avoid any unnecessary absence during the test period.

Following the Easter holiday, students will continue to prepare for the tests in their English, maths, and Geography lessons as well as in tutorial but we encourage students to prepare independently too. To aid this, copies of past test papers and revision materials can be accessed via the school's LIT/NUM/DCF SKILLS web pages - accessed via the homepage of the school's website.

If you think all of this sounds like a busy school - you are right! Staff and students continue to work incredibly hard to ensure that each young person has the opportunity to reach their potential. All of our work, as ever, is driven through our values of respect, inclusion and collaboration and a commitment to achieve excellence, in all that we can.

As parents and guardians I thank you for your continued support and hope that you are able, as families, to enjoy time together over the Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher / Prifathro  
Rhys Evans B.Sc (HONS), NPQH

