



May 2019

SFX NEWSLETTER

Love of God. Love of Neighbour

School reopens on Monday 3rd June

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. The academic year seems to be flying by and although a very short half term, it has been another very busy one.

Year 11 students have started their GCSE exams and are working very hard. Everyone at the school wishes them good luck in the exams. Staff have offered many additional classes, both after school and during lunchtimes, and our students have appreciated the support provided for them. Two weeks ago we held our Leavers' service for Year 11 students, led by Mrs Ross-Russell. It was, as always, a very proud but emotional time as the year group came together for one of the last times. Year 11 students will be celebrating with their Prom which will be held at Rockliffe Hall once the

CHAPLAINCY

Our Year 11 celebrated their 5 years at SFX with a special Service on Friday 10th May. Our Head and Deputy Head boys and girls helped to put the Service together to reflect the theme of Thankfulness for what has past and Hope for the future. There was time for signing shirts and refreshments together at the end of the service.

We hope that some of the seeds of faith which have been sown during their time at SFX will go with them into the future, and we wish them all the very best in their exams and in the years that lie ahead – we will miss you Year 11!

Confirmation Classes have been taking place at SFX for both Roman Catholic and Church of England students who wish to be confirmed. Over 30 students have met together each week, after school on a Thursday to prepare for their Confirmation Services on 18th and 23rd June.

exams are finished. They have been a lovely year group and great role models for younger students. They will be missed by the rest of the school community.

Next half term is already shaping up to be another very busy one as we gear up for our school show, 'The Wiz' which will run for three nights from 10 to 12 July. Students have been busy rehearsing alongside Miss Smith, Mr Rodaway and Mrs Knight and the standard of performance promises to be exceptional. I do hope that you are able to come along and see the pupils' perform.

Finally, I hope all our young people enjoy a well-deserved rest and I look forward to seeing them back in school on Monday 3 June.



We are looking forward to sharing with them as they take this special step in their lives.

Our final Parents Prayer meeting, for this academic year, will take place on **Thursday 27th June from 2 – 3.30pm in the Chapel.**

If you would like to join us for that, you are very welcome to do so. We will be discussing dates for next year's meetings on that occasion. It has been a privilege and a blessing to be able to pray for our school with all who have attended the meetings so far this year.





MATRIX CHALLENGE

Police from the cyber prevention team hosted the Matrix Challenge in school on Tuesday 30th April for students from year 7, 8 and 9.

Working with students with an interest in IT they ran two one hour sessions where the children completed online challenges.

The challenge was available to a number of schools in the area and prizes will be issued to students in the top three. We are still awaiting the result. We would like to thank the police and students for their efforts on the day.

YEAR 8 CHEMISTRY CLUB

Next half term, Year 8 Chemistry Club will be working on rates of reaction. At the moment we can't get the 'Measuring rates by reducing mass' experiment to work so they will be trialling different masses, concentrations and procedures to see if we can get a measurable rate!

Professor Greenwell of the Geochemistry Department in Durham university has kindly lent us a melting point apparatus to use in GCSE Chemical analysis topics.

Cummins Technology Green Powered Car Challenge:

Cummins Technology of Darlington have kindly given us an F24 class electric car to race at the Green Powered Car Challenge at Croft Circuit on 9th July. Two apprentices from Cummins and the Year 8 car team will be giving an assembly to St. Mary's school on the 4th July to increase awareness of electric cars.



International Women's Engineering Day:

Cummins Technology apprenticeships will be

running workshops in school on the 21st June to promote the role of women in the engineering sector and to develop skills needed for that career. It is aimed at Year 9 and 10 pupils. See Mr. Nolan, if interested.

Dr. Bottley, Incytometry:

Dr. Bottley will be delivering a practical workshop on cells to Year 6 St. Mary's pupils and 2 groups of year 8s in school on the 3rd July. Dr Bottley has done several of these engaging and challenging sessions. The purpose is to develop GCSE understanding of cells very early on.

International Year of the Periodic Table:

The Royal Society of Chemistry have sponsored a 'Paint the Periodic table' project in school. Ms. Tindall has started researching the elements of the periodic table with Year 7s and they are beginning to draw plaques which we will put together into a full Periodic Table display in school. This is to celebrate the 150th Year Anniversary of its inception by Mendeleev!

Year 6 pupils from St. Mary's School will be spending the day at SFX with Mr. Nolan to do experiments with the elements and draw the old versions of the Periodic Table to go alongside the Year 7 version.

FUTURE STARS

On May 13th ten year 10 students took part in Future Stars, run by Globalbridge. The morning event was an amazing opportunity for our young people to be inspired by industry and for industry to engage with and encourage the future stars of the north east.

The session included key note speakers, industry led workshops and exhibition stands where the students could meet and talk to leading employers and universities.

Many thanks to Mrs Noone and Mrs Pratt for running a successful trip.





SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Pupils at Saint Francis Xavier School, Richmond are undertaking rehearsals for a production of The Wiz, presented 10th-12th July at 7pm.

THE WIZ is a soul musical retelling of L Frank Baum's classic children's novel The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. When Dorothy is swept up in a storm and lands in a strange land called Oz, she is sent on a journey down the yellow brick road to meet the mighty Wiz who might just be able to send her home again. On the way she meets Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion who could all benefit from a trip to see the Wiz too. What follows is a journey of self-discovery for Dorothy and her new friends as they learn they are more capable than they believe.

The school production features a cast of 40 pupils aged between 11-15 and is directed by English and Drama teacher, Miss Smith. The production features a thirteen-piece professional band led by Musical Director and school Head of

Music Mr Rodaway, whilst fellow teacher Mrs Knight has taken responsibility for choreography.

THE WIZ was conceived by Sam Bobrick, Charlie Smalls and William F Brown, who originally set the musical in the context of African-American culture. The production opened on Broadway in 1975 with an all-black cast and went on to win seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical. The production was made into a film by Universal Pictures and Motown Productions, with Diana Ross playing the lead character of Dorothy, and Michael Jackson in the role of the Scarecrow. A live television adaptation of THE WIZ was aired on NBC in 2015.

Tickets are available from School Reception.

Tickets:

Adults - £8.00

Child (16 and under) - £5.00

Box Office: 01748 823414

Communications@sfxschool.org.uk,
Saint Francis Xavier School, Darlington Road,
Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 7DA

This amateur production of "The Wiz" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.

THE WIZ Book by William F. Brown Music and Lyrics by Charlie Smalls From the story "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum



ECO TEAM

The eco team continue to raise awareness and take action to reduce the impact the school has on the environment. The photographs show just some of the activities they have been involved in this term - promoting the awful issue of single use plastics by making eco bricks; litter picking (82 litter picks carried out to date); and, Olivia and some of the team members with their letters written to businesses to raise awareness of the impact on the environment of single use plastics.





SPORTS UPDATE

Athletics

On 10th May we took 12 students from SFX to the area athletics trials.

Results:

Grace Beaumont 2nd for 200m

Emily Wilford 1st for discus

Lucas Holmes 2nd in shot

Olly Sartin 2nd in javelin.

Well done to everyone who took part.



GEOGRAPHY TRIP

As part of the GCSE Geography coursework year 10 have spent an enjoyable and informative day gathering data on the beach at Redcar.

Luckily the day stayed dry and reasonably warm as they took measurements and worked in teams to complete the assignment. Thank you to Mrs Bauwens and all the staff who took the students on the trip.

POLICE

Congratulations to Joseph Parkes-Hatley and Maddie Dale have been selected from 200 candidates to take part in a weeks work experience with North Yorkshire Police in July. Well done.

SERVICE STUDENTS

Students whose parents are in the armed forces were taken along to a special event at St John's in York, exploring their unique perspective and feelings around further and higher education in a mutually supportive environment. Thank you to Mrs Fisher for taking the students on the trip.

YEAR 10 ENRICHMENT

Year 10 is an important year to start thinking about the next step after GCSEs.

In a 4 day enrichment programme to support our students they learned about CV writing, and took part in interviews from local businesses, team building and a visit to Teesside University.

The second two day enrichment sessions included post 16 providers and study skills followed by a finance workshop.

Congratulations to the successful candidates

who were 'hired' as a result of their interviews and well done to all the year 10s who impressed our visitors and visitations with their excellent attitude and behaviour.

