

14th June 2024

Dear Families

Our children have experienced a rich diversity of opportunity this week. These opportunities have included the Year 8 Bushcraft residential, Year 10 University visits, Year 12 Geography fieldwork and supporting primary school children on their taster days. All of these activities support the development of our holistic curriculum. The Emmaus Support Department and the Emmanuel centre are continuing with their Transition Plus activities with Year 6 children prior to them joining our community in September. Year 7 and Year 12 parents have also been welcomed into school for information evenings. I hope that you found them helpful.

You may be aware that St. Paul's is a sponsor of Stephenson Trust and I am chair of the Trust. This week Ofsted visited Bridge Academy and it was a very positive experience for all involved. The report will be published in the next few weeks. Also on Monday, Mrs Warren, Business Manager, and I will be meeting the owners of Z&S buses to discuss their service. Year 12 students will be involved in a Future Destinations conference on Monday. On Tuesday all of our middle leaders will be working together as part of our professional development programme for our excellent middle leaders. On Wednesday Mrs Warren and I will be visiting St Bernadette's to work with their Governing Board. Our Chaplaincy & Pastoral Leaders are taking students to see The Life of Christ at Wintershall on that day too. On Thursday, Year 9 Bronze D of E students have their assessment so we wish them well for that.

Congratulations to Ilya Selivanov and Nadia Partyka who took part in the 2nd round of the UKMT challenge this week following their excellent scores in round 1. Both pupils worked extremely hard on a range of challenging mathematical problems. This is organised to develop and extend the mathematical approach of students and is designed to challenge their thinking from numerous perspectives. We would like to take this opportunity to praise both pupils for their excellent efforts. We look forward to getting the results!

Well done to Kimberley Nyarko in Year 10 who achieved a Merit for her grade 3 cello exam.

Year 12 students begin their PPEs next week and Year 10 linguists begin their speaking assessments. Students from both year groups will have the opportunity to demonstrate everything that they have been learning.

On Thursday Senior Leaders will be working together for an extended time to rework the Home School Agreement. I am keen to include your ideas and thoughts on how to improve this crucial document so please feel free to review it on our website and send me any ideas that you would like us to include or change. On Friday the Senior Team will be working off site at our annual strategic conference. This is

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our opportunity to work on our strategic vision and priorities for the year ahead. Mr Manley, our former Headteacher, is in school that day to support Middle Leaders in our absence.

We are coming to the end of the formal examination period and so I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to students for how well they have approached these exams, well done to parents for surviving the last few weeks (I can empathise as I experienced this last year!) and well done to staff who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to manage the vast number of examinations smoothly and diligently. It literally takes an 'army' of people to manage this whole process every year!

Students continue to respond really well to our expectations of uniform, equipment and safe movement around site. They are also enjoying the new lunchtime arrangements. Just a reminder to check the uniform list when purchasing items such as skirts and shoes ready for September. There are photos to support you. Skirts should be knee length and not 'bodycon' in style. Thank you for your support with this. We are consulting on our uniform policy (footwear) for Years 7 – 11. You can find the link [here](#).

Congratulations to Mrs Markatos who has just won an award for being the most Inspirational teacher in the MK Inspiration awards. This is thoroughly deserved and we are delighted to celebrate with her.

<https://www.mkmoneylifeline.org.uk/> is where we shine our community spotlight this week. MK Money Lifeline are an independent debt advice service for anyone in need in Milton Keynes. They offer free of charge sympathetic, non-judgemental, confidential advice through face-to-face meetings with a real person. The advisors are able to deal with creditors on your behalf, help you manage your household budget and will work with you for as long as you need help.

Please remind your children to visit me for their Headteacher's stamp when they have accumulated 30 green stamps.

If you are going to be watching the Euros you might like to know that a former St Paul's student, Kevin Danso, is playing in the Austrian team and will play against France on Monday where he is due to be marking Kylian Mbappe. We wish Kevin the best of luck for the tournament. He has also been featured in the i newspaper, in an article written by another former student, Katherine Lucas, which you can read [here](#). Thank you to another former student, Stephanie Okumi, for getting in touch with this information.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



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