

15th November 2024

Dear Families

Our week started with a very poignant Remembrance Service. I was very grateful to all those students who came into school in uniform and to Mr Molloy who played the Last Post for us. It was a very moving experience. On Monday, Bank of England employee Alex Wood came into school to speak to our A Level Economics students. Alex spoke about the history and role of the Bank of England, interest rates, quantitative easing, storing gold and keeping the UK financial system stable to name a few! Students were eager to ask Alex questions not only to develop their understanding of the Bank and monetary policy, but also about his career route to working at the Bank of England. Alex was very generous with his time and was very complimentary of our students saying that they were the most engaged students in the visits he has conducted in his role as Bank Ambassador. The Bank of England website contains lots of information about careers at the Bank if your child is interested to know more: <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/careers>

The Year 13 apprenticeship cohort had an inspiring session on 'Building Your Network' from Jeffery Manso, AKA 'Mr LinkedIn'. Jeffery shared strategies for using LinkedIn to build and nurture professional networks, strengthen your personal brand and unlock opportunities and career growth.

Our Student Leaders also led a staff meeting this week to promote activities and key messages surrounding Anti-Bullying Week. You may also have seen the photos of the many odd socks that were worn on Tuesday as part of this.

On Tuesday evening we hosted our PTA meeting followed by the termly meeting of the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of the Catholic Schools in Milton Keynes. It was a busy evening as there was also a Year 10 Information Evening which I hope parents found helpful. Earlier that day six of our Student Leaders met online with students from Greece to help them improve their English by speaking with native speakers. A mix of age groups on both sides attended the session from Year 12 to Year 8. Pupils had a lot of fun in this session asking each other questions about their lives. Student leaders are doing this volunteer work through our Catholic Social Teaching initiative which directly relates to the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

We've had a busy week this week with Network Rail coming into school running the Tomorrow's Engineer Workshop. Pupils had the opportunity to build bridges and learn about careers in the engineering world.

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We also took a group of Year 9 girls to Niftylift's Women in Engineering event 2024. Pupils had the opportunity to tour the factory and learn about the design and production of a Niftylift platform. Thank you to everyone that took part.

Next week begins with the Year 11 Art PPE all day on Monday. On Wednesday Year 11 students have the opportunity to visit the University of Northampton. Also that day we have SEND parent tours of the school. That evening Year 8 parents can access a pre-recorded parents' information evening. We also have our second Full Governing Board meeting of the academic year. On Thursday A Level Politics students are going to De Montfort University to take part in a 'Congress to Campus' event. Some of Year 9 will be attending a Teen Boys Conference in London. Finally on Friday we are taking part in a debating competition. I'm sure that you will agree, there are such varied opportunities on offer for your children.

On Thursday 28th November, from 6pm to 8pm, we will be holding our Sixth Form Open Evening. I look forward to welcoming our Year 11 pupils as well as pupils from across the city who are looking to join our excellent Sixth Form in September 2025. We have two new courses on offer next year as we are introducing T Levels in both Health Science and Health. Please do come along to see what we have on offer for your children in our Sixth Form.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



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