



As this academic year draws to a close I feel the best way to sum it up is through the eyes of our students

"I have had many opportunities to contribute to the school, this includes helping out during Charity Week and helping with the Shoebox Appeal. St Joseph's is a brilliant school which installs traditional Catholic values, this makes the school such a loving place and this is shown by the caring nature of students and teachers." *Year 13 Student*

"We have done some creative, educational and safety activities this year. They helped me to stay safe and I know a lot more about this than when I first came into St Joseph's. This year has been amazing. My communication skills have improved. I'm a lot more confident and all the activities have helped me and I'm happy with my progress this year and I want to thank all the people who helped me to achieve." *Year 7 Student*

The things I have enjoyed this year are relatively new to the College. I have really enjoyed enrichment at lunchtimes; it has forced me to work with new people and helped me forge new friendships. I also really enjoyed altar serving for our Class Mass, it enabled me to incorporate my faith further into my college life. However my favourite thing I did this year was take part in the school production. The Seussical brought together talented students, Years 7-13, to make something fantastic." *Year 9 Student*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and parents for your continued support of the college and hope you are looking forward to working with our New Principal, Mr Paul Hughes.

Comenius

On May 24th 2013 a group of year 10 students set off on the final leg of the Comenius Partnership to visit Swidnica in Poland

The weeklong trip was a brilliant cultural experience where they learnt more about local folk lore, with some students dressing as Wallonian witches, visited various local tourist attractions including castles and WW11 tunnels and made new friends both far and wide.

Prayer

Lord, we turn to You to ask for your blessing as we come to the end of another school year.

Help us leave behind any difficulties that we may have encountered during this past year. We thank You for all that we have learnt and for the new friendships that we have made.

We ask that You be with us now as we begin our summer holidays, enjoying the precious time spent with our family. Help us feel rested and refreshed for our return to St. Joseph's in September.

We ask this in Your name. Amen.

Readathon Success

At the start of July, Year 7 began the first ever Readathon at St. Joseph's Catholic College, a scheme designed to encourage students to read for pleasure and raise money for a good cause at the same time. Every student in Year 7 was given the target of reading at least two books between the 10th July and 10th June. Students were encouraged to get sponsorship for every book they read during this four week period. It was hoped that each student would raise £2 each, reaching a target of £440 for the entire year group. The money raised would then go to the children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity.

The Year 7 students embraced this challenge, smashing the targets set by the College. The final total number of books read was an amazing 786 and the money raised through sponsorship was £1,168. This is a great achievement for all of the Year 7 students, who have hopefully got into the reading habit over the last four weeks. Let's hope this habit lasts a lifetime.

Mr. Stoten



Dates for your diary

24th July	College closes for students at 12:30pm
3rd September	Year 7 and 12 Induction
4th September	All students in College
5th September	Year 7 Parents' Information Evening, 6-8pm
12th September	UCAS Information Evening, 6-8pm
2nd October	Year 6 Open Evening, 6-8pm
10th October	Year 7 Tutor Evening, 6-8pm
17th October	Sixth Form Open Evening, 6-8pm

Come along to our Year 6 Open Evening

Do you have a child due to start Year 6 in September, or have friends or family that do? Have you started to consider which secondary school they will go to? St. Joseph's is holding its Year 6 Open Evening on Wednesday 2nd October, from 6 - 8pm.

Open to everyone, the evening will give you and your child the opportunity to look around the College, hear our new Principal, Mr Paul Hughes, talk about what the College can offer your child, and see various activities and demonstrations.

There is no need to register for the evening - simply turn up on the night (there will be parking on site available).

Buddies

The new cohort of Buddies for 2013/2014 has been chosen. Following an explanatory assembly, many students expressed their interest and collected application forms. 38 students were chosen to take part in the Buddy training session, which took place on Friday 28th June. They were very attentive at the presentation and asked some interesting questions. Their first duty was assisting at the Year 7 Induction Day on 4th July. Feedback from tutors was that they were very helpful in the class and with the new intake of students. They have been asked to also assist on the Year 7 Induction Day at the start of the new College year on Tuesday 3rd September.

Exam Results Dates and Information

Please note: Examination Results and Certificates are NOT posted, they must be collected.

If you want someone else to collect your results or certificates for you you MUST give this person a letter, signed by you, confirming that they are authorised to do so on your behalf.

GCE Results Date - Thursday 15th August

A2 results can be collected from 08:30am
AS results can be collected from 09:00am

GCSE Results Date - Thursday 22nd August

Results can be collected from 10:00am

The deadline for enquiries about examination results is 18th September. Please note exam board fees apply for all applications. Certificates will be available for collection from the Student Reception in the College from Wednesday 27th November.

Year 11 Prom and Year 13 Prom

Two very successful evenings were held at the De Vere hotel at Shaw ridge which saw a transformation in our students to very smart, suave and well dressed young men alongside glamorous and sophisticated young ladies. They arrived in a variety of different modes of transport from ice cream vans to limousines and from camper vans to a Rolls Royce

They all dined in style with three courses and then danced the night away. A good evening was had by all.



Got a 'taste' for Sixth Form? Now come along to the Open Evening

Year 10 students recently got to find out more about Sixth Form, enjoying a week of 'taster sessions' where they got to experience what lessons, tutorials and assemblies are like, and what really goes on in the Sixth Form Common Room... As our Year 10 students move into Year 11, come along to the Post 16 Open Evening on Thursday 17th October, from 6 - 8pm, to find out how to apply for Sixth Form and receive answers to any questions you may have about moving into post sixteen education.

Open to everyone, whether you are currently a student at the College or not, the evening will give you the opportunity to find out the range of A Level, BTEC and Level 2 courses offered, how life in the Sixth Form is different to the rest of the College, and ask questions of the Sixth Form team, including the Heads of Year.



Year 9 Arts Award - Teaching at Holy Rood Primary School

This term our Year 9 Arts Award students completed their course by teaching new skills to Year 5 students at Holy Rood Primary School. The school was keen to create art work to display in their new Garden of Reflection and, as ever, St. Joseph's Year 9 students were happy to oblige. The group decided upon laminated, collaged insects, which were both waterproof and were like small stained glass. These could then be arranged and hung amongst the plants and features already in the garden.

The students were outstanding ambassadors for the College, demonstrating the very best that St. Joseph's has to offer. They planned and resourced their own lessons and delivered them confidently to groups of four or five students. Their teaching and rapport was so good that many of the Year 5 students expressed their wish to be taught by them all the time!

Each lesson concluded with the groups moving with their newly created insects to the garden and positioning them before explaining why they chose that location to display it.

The lessons made a fantastic conclusion to the Year 9 course and showed how far their confidence and skills have grown over the year. Roll on GCSE!



ePortal - Parent Link

During this academic year we have made available online reviews for students in Years 7, 8, 12 and 13. Following the success of this, it has been decided that, going forward, accessing reviews online will be the main method by which parents will see student reviews for all students in the College.

During the course of the next year, we are aiming to increase the items we can make available to parents through ePortal. Currently this includes data on attendance, assessment (SATs results, target analysis), timetable, notice board and contact information.

If you have any queries on this, please contact us on eportal@stjosephs.swindon.sch.uk or on 01793 716977, remembering to include the student's name and tutor group.

Chaplaincy News

Youth Saint Vincent De Paul (YSVP)

Fourteen students have joined the YSVP during this year. They have been visiting the Kingsmead Nursing Home as their pastoral placement (well done to you all!). Certificates from the Society will be presented to them during the celebration awards ceremony.

Thank you

A big thank you to all who have supported our Fairtrade Franchise throughout the year. The Franchise continues to supply products to Holy Rood Church, the Moravian Church and the Methodist Church in Rodbourne. Total sales for the year are over £5700, with £700 the commission raised from the sales. This money has been donated to the Outreach Project in El Salvador.

This year we say goodbye to the Year 13 students who have been involved with the Franchise for seven years. Many thanks for your hard work in promoting Fairtrade within our College; your help and support has been invaluable.

GCSE PE Rock Climbing - Pencelli

Four GCSE PE students travelled to Pencelli to complete an intensive rock climbing assessment week as part of their GCSE course. Ryan Morgan, Matthew Flannelly, Charlie Fox-Saunders and Christian Wood all applied themselves excellently and were rewarded for their hard work with high scores.

Diary Entry Day 6: Climbing assessment Gilwers

Today we travelled to an old quarry to have Pete assess our climbing. We had to set up ropes with someone watching us and then they were tested to see if they were okay. We also did some bouldering climbs to see if we could stay on the wall at a low level. Then we moved on to foot jams and hand jams in the cracks of the climbs. After this we had to climb an overhang and do a layback; this took some time as we had to search for foot holds. We were also assessed on our climbing calls, and technique.

Ryan Morgan



Mathematics News

Year 7 Maths Challenge

On 3rd July SJCC hosted ten teams from six different schools for an inter-school maths competition. The team from 7y1 continued their run of success from previous competitions, coming second this time. Well done to them!

In the previous month teams from Holy Family, St. Catherine's, St. Mary's and Drove had also visited the College to take part in a similar competition, and had a brilliant time, with the two teams from St Mary's pushing the 7y1 team very close.

Inter-School Chess

On 3rd July SJCC hosted chess teams from Holy Family and Holy Rood in an inter-school chess challenge. The challenge was won by Andrea Napoli, who won 4 out of 4 games, beating some very strong Holy Rood players in high quality matches in the process. Students should speak to Mr Davies or Mr Timuri if you would like to take part in inter-school chess next year, competing against other secondary schools.

Junior Maths Challenge

Many congratulations to Rahul Vital and Andrea Napoli for achieving Gold Certificates in the Junior Maths Challenge. Stephen Caayao was best in Year 7 with a Silver, and we managed two Golds, three Silvers and six Bronzes in total, all in all a great result.

Exhibiting in town

The Art and Photography Year 12 students were joined this year by the Graphics students to put on their annual exhibition of Sixth Form work at the Post Modern Gallery in Swindon.

Providing an excellent opportunity to mix with professional artists, and to be involved in setting up, promoting and marketing their work, the feedback they received was first class. Well done to all involved and thank you to everyone who came along to view and support their efforts.



Year 10 Army Trip

On July 10th a small group of year 10 students visited the Duke of Gloucester barracks where they learnt more about what the army do including experiencing the weight of the back packs soldiers carry and seeing a bomb disposal robot in action. It certainly was food for thought for those students who are considering life in the armed forces



Music Update

This summer has been a busy one for all our students, who have participated in competitions and festivals both within the College and externally.

Wootton Bassett Music Festival

Two of our students, Jordan Isgin and Joe Forrester, who both studied GCSE Music, took part in the Wootton Bassett Arts Festival in June. They performed 'Serenade' by Schubert in the '16 and under Piano Duet' class, achieving a distinction performance and winning the class.

Jordan also performed in both the 'Grade 8 Class on the piano' and again won with a distinction. He came second in the 'Above Grade 8 Class'. Our congratulations to both students on their excellent achievements!

St. Joseph's Music Competition 2013

In the last week of June we had the St. Joseph's Music Competition. We had a fantastic response this year, with nearly 90 students taking part! The talent on display was brilliant and there were some outstanding performances. A selection of the entries will be performing at the Gifted and Talent Evening on the 18th July.

The overall winners for each year group were:

Year 7: Estelle Cobbson, Year 8: Christine Osei, Year 9: Connor Kemp and Will Toogood, Year 10: Anant Mane, and Year 12: Lynette Mutuota.

Many congratulations to all the winners and well done to all the students who took part. Hopefully next year we can encourage all those other talented students who did not take part to come forward and have a go.

Other news

If you learn an instrument outside of College please share with us your successes when you pass your Grade exam. We would love to hear about your achievements.

Any students who wish to learn an instrument please go to the Swindon Music Co-Operative website where you can find details of how to apply for lessons.

Flexible Pathway and Duke of Edinburgh Award Partnership

Congratulations to the nineteen Flexible Pathway students who successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition in May and June. They managed to battle through typically inclement British weather and showed excellent teamwork and resilience to overcome the challenges they faced. A fantastic time was had by all and we hope many of the students take this opportunity to continue with the Award and complete the other three sections.

The expedition contributed towards their Certificate of Personal Effectiveness folders and, as a result, all 29 Year 10 Flexible Pathway students have achieved their Level 2 qualification, following a recent external moderation.

A massive well done to those students and all the staff who have contributed to this success throughout the year.



Inspiring our Artists

Twenty Year 10 students were able to get creative and be inspired on a two day residential trip to beautiful Cornwall recently.

After a whole day exploring the natural world at the world famous Eden Project, they then spent a relaxing evening on the beach. The following day we visited the Tate in St Ives and the Barbara Hepworth Museum. A whirlwind two days was enjoyed by all.



Thorpe Park Trip

Year 10 ICT and Computing students visited Thorpe Park to enhance their understanding of how ICT and Computing are vital components of the running of an organisation such as a theme park. Students completed questionnaires on the different elements of computing used at the park and also had plenty of free time to enjoy the park. A great day out was had by all!



MFL enjoy a trip to Boulogne

'I really liked the trip to Boulogne-sur-Mer because we went to see this beautiful chapel with lots of paintings and statues; we even got to touch part of the hand of the statue of Notre Dame! We also went to the old street (Rue de Lille) and bought lots of cool things. At the end we went to the beach and enjoyed ourselves until we were full of food. Then went home.'

Casper Anderson

'On Friday we went to France, I loved every bit of it, especially when we went to the beach to have a picnic. Also I liked it when we went to the gigantic supermarket: Auchan. We were supposed to buy things for our picnic later on, then we were set free to buy whatever we wanted. It was brilliant!'

Aleksandra Wisniewska

GCSE Business Studies visit McDonalds

As part of the GCSE Business Studies, course we had the opportunity to go to McDonald's and have a tour of the building. We went downstairs to where they keep all their ingredients, we learnt about how they keep them fresh and how they need to plan their stock carefully to avoid waste. We also went around the kitchen where we were told about how they cook the food and the hygiene regulations they follow. For example, it only takes them 42 seconds to cook a burger! We also had the chance to meet the franchisee for all the McDonalds restaurants in Swindon and speak to him about what it is like to set up and run a successful business. It was very interesting to find out how everything actually worked.

Rebecca Wood

Student Views - Readathon

'I think Readathon was a fun way for me to read more books and it was an exciting to raise money for charity. I can't remember how many books I read exactly, but it was something along the lines of 6-10. I have raised £45 and I am very proud of that. CLIC Sargent, Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity and Readwell are lucky to be getting a lot of money from Year 7 to support them.

My favourite book was 'Irish Charm' because it implied that, even if you're from another country or have a different accent, you can still find love. It was about an Irish boy, who moved to London and got made fun of, but a certain girl helped him through it and they eventually fell in love.

This has changed my reading habits, because it made me realise that I am lucky to read all these great books.

Taania Saeed 7L

'I think the Readathon helped people get better at reading because they want to read the most books and raise the most money, helping the children in need.

Readathon is a very exciting way to raise money for charity and a lot of people would agree that Readathon is one of the most enjoyable ways to raise money for charity.

I have raised £70 and read 10 books. The money I got from sponsorship will go to CLIC Sargent, Roald Dahl's Children's Charity and Read Well.

Tyler Cullen 7L

'For the Readathon challenge we had to read at least one book, or as many as you could in a month, so at the end of the month we could raise money to help CLIC Sargent, Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity and Read Well.

My thoughts on Readathon are that it is a good way to raise money and a good way for kids to get into reading. It will also help them through life because it helps them use the language from the books they have started reading into their own writing. By supporting readathon and raising money for these charities it does not only help you but it helps other people aswell. For readathon I have read 4 books and have raised £6.20 so far. I feel that I could of raised more money and read more books though.

Jessica Downey 7L

Leaders of Faith Award

All Year 8 students have been entered for the Silver Leaders of Faith Award this year. The award will be given by the Diocese to our students in September. Thank you to all Year 8 students for your hard work in successfully completing the criteria to receive this award. Two Year 11 students have also been entered for the Platinum award in celebration of their commitment and dedication to the Catholic life of our College.

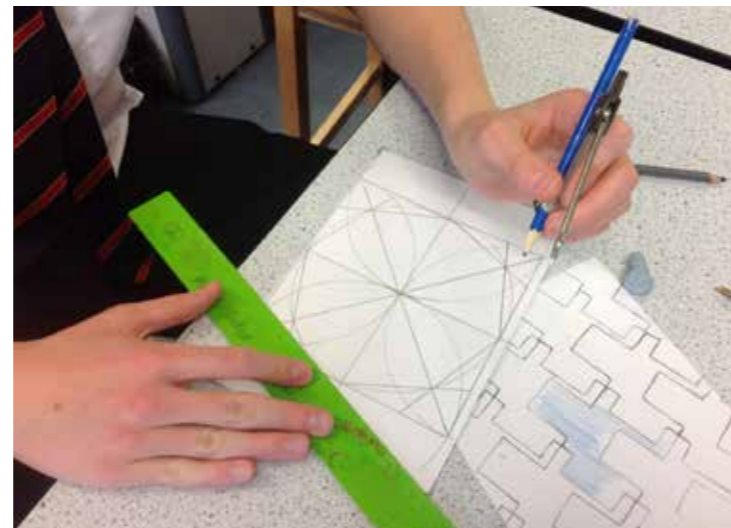
Flexible Friday - Mathematics

On 17th of May the Year 9 students had the wonderful opportunity to use their Maths skills to create artwork inspired by Escher, the master of tessellation. Unique designs were made and will now carry the Year 9 legacy in the College, through the extraordinary combination of Mathematics, Art and Religious Education.

During the various activities the students were compelled to do their best and incorporate their Maths and Art skills. Here are some opinions of the students participating during the day:

'I learnt that in Islamic culture they use their art to dedicate it to their religion and it is very important to them.'

'It was a completely new experience to me as I used two completely different subjects in a way I never imagined.'
John Ramos & Leighana Checchia



Meeting Cathy Cassidy

On Wednesday 12th June Mrs Moss and Mrs Jones took 12 girls to Ridgeway School to meet Cathy Cassidy, one of our favourite authors. She told us about herself, what she had been like at school and how she became a successful author.

She read us a short chapter from her latest novel, 'Coco Caramel' and we asked her questions about her past and how she came up with all the amazing ideas that make her books so popular. What a great experience!

Eleanor Blackett and Rhiannon Ford



Primary Liason

Art, Design and Technology

Students from Holy Rood Juniors, St. Mary's, St Catherine's and Drove took part in a variety of activities including making pencil boxes, clay and food dice.

ICT

On 10th June over 100 Year 6 students from St. Mary's and Holy Rood Juniors visited the College to experience ICT at St. Joseph's. During the visit they were introduced to how ICT can be used in control and computer programming. Students had the chance to use 'Crocodile Clips' to program characters to perform a dance routine and to learn some of the basics of computer programming. In the other group, students used 'Scratch' to create an interactive racing game by writing code to control characters on the screen. Feedback from the students and staff from the junior schools and was very positive.

Science

In June we had the Year 6 Primary Liaison visit to St. Joseph's, where we gave the students the opportunity to see what being in a science lab would be like next year. During their short time here, students had the chance to have a go at chromatography, investigating the colours in different pen inks and even what colours are used to make Skittles! Links were made by the students between science in primary school and how science would be different next year at secondary school. Students said that they were looking forward to science at St. Joseph's next year; in particular, they are looking forward to lighting Bunsen burners.

Humanities

In recent weeks, teachers from the Humanities Department have carried out exciting sessions with Year 6 students at Holy Rood, St. Catherine's, St. Mary's and Drove, giving them an introduction to the 'World Around Us' course. The students participated in activities including 'What can we learn from a handbag?' and 'The instructions of an earthquake preparation committee', which encouraged them all to demonstrate their teamwork skills, decision making and information gathering.

Mr Brown and Mrs Parker from the History department also spent an afternoon with Year 6 pupils at Holy Rood, who proved themselves to be budding archaeologists, digging and recording finds in the chicken garden and speculating about the historical objects they had found.

All of the students whom we have met have impressed us with their enthusiasm for learning and we look forward to meeting them all again in September.

We would also like to say a thank you to Naomi Fleet, Klair Robinson and Alice Bailey, three AS Sociology students who volunteered to assist on each of these visits and who made an excellent contribution each time.

Year 6 Olympics

Our now annual event is due to take place at the County Ground track on July 10th. This is becoming a really good event and is well supported by our Partner Primary Schools. The very best of luck to all that participate.

The Extend Project

The Extend Project is running again this summer, with our largest cohort ever. The incoming Year 6's will enjoy a week of activities including Mini Master Chef, Computer Animation, Technology and Art Attack.

Many thanks to all who are taking part to make this possible. I am looking forward to meeting as many of our new Year 7 students as possible.

Another great year for Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Students from across the College got to celebrate their Duke of Edinburgh Award success recently, taking part in an awards evening, where they got to collect their Bronze, Silver and Gold Award certificates. Some 28 students have achieved their Bronze Award this year, 16 collected their Silver and six their Gold. This is an amazing achievement, so well done to all who took part.

Art and Geography in the deep dark wood



'We did orienteering in the forest in pairs. We had to work together to find 12 clues and we had to use our management skills and our map skills. It was difficult because it was a really big area; lots of dark shadowy places. After that we had lunch and then had to create sculptures out of nature and also use our imagination skills to make something totally new. Then we went around and judged all the pieces of art.'

'Today was very enjoyable! We did orienteering which was great and after lunch we did art - we had to build structures out of wood and other materials. All the people I talked to really enjoyed the day as we went on an adventure!! YAY!!'

House News

Buckfast

As the summer term draws to a close we have much success to reflect upon as a House. This term Tom Prinzi (9A) was one of the winners in the House Poster competition.

We were well represented in this year's St Joseph's Music Festival and came away with many House Points. Congratulations to Abi Ross and Eleanor Nganga (3rd place, Year 7); Christine Osei (1st place, Year 8), Leanne Horgan and Elliot Skitterall (2nd place, Year 8); Anant Mane (1st place, Year 10) and Ginnella De Oliveira (2nd place Year 10). We are very proud to have such wonderfully talented students in Buckfast House. Thanks to all in Buckfast who took part – we gained over 180 House Points!

This term also saw Dominic Pastor, Mark Whyte and Jessel Fernandes from 8A compete in the Swindon School's tennis tournament. At time of print the boys have qualified for Swindon School's Sports event and wish them the best of luck in the final. The boys from 8A managed to win through despite being a player down and so forfeiting every fourth match. They will compete in the final along with Andrea Napoli from 8S. Good luck boys!

As with any other achievements, events or trips, please do see Miss Pileggi about this and celebrate your contribution to the House.

Glastonbury

A big well done to the following Glastonbury pupils who took part in the Graphics Poster Competition: Chelsea and Alice (8C), Joe and Nadia (8L), Ozilia and Aquiline (9C), your wonderfully creative entries were a credit to the House.

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved the most House points in their year groups this term.

- 7C - Ellie Stow
- 7L - Georgina Muroki
- 8C – David Paszczak
- 8L – Jo Porter
- 9C – Luc Howell
- 9L – Gabriela Caruso

Year 9 and 10 Glastonbury pupils have also had success in the Music Festival with Niamh Smith gaining 3rd Place and Connor Kemp and Will Toogood being named overall winners. Caitlin O'Leary and Christopher Waite also gained 2nd and 3rd place, respectively, for Year 10.

Well done everyone. You have all been wonderful standard bearers for the House as we move towards the end of the College year.

Evesham

This term we have celebrated lots of achievements within our House. A huge congratulations to the following students for designing a House Poster for the House Graphics Competition: Maddie Sparks, Zulieka Dilella (8B), Joann Do Rego and Meryl Fernandes (9W).

Our House photographers have been very busy this term, recording the wide range of activities on Flexible Fridays- many thanks to Bradley Reynolds, Alfie Newsome and Alphonse Ochieng.

Finally we have had great success in this year's St Josephs Music Festival. Huge congratulations to the following students:

Estelle Cobbson- 1st place and overall winner in Year 7
Anna Barrett- 3rd place in Year 8
Ashburn Dias- 2nd place in Year 9
Lynette Mutuota- 1st place and overall winner in Year 12
Ben O'Flanagan- 3rd place in Year 12.

Well done to everyone in Evesham who entered!

Walsingham

Walsingham are currently fourth with the total house point scores. However, if you remember, at Easter time we were in third position and we managed to use our fantastic skills and excellent work to push ourselves to first position, so keep going Walsingham!

This term Walsingham students have achieved many House points through commendations. Well done to all! The male and female students in Walsingham with the most commendations for this term are Darius Michienzi and Diane De Guzman, both 7M. A big well done to you both!

Mr Sturla recently ran a house poster competition that asked for students to create a poster that showed the importance of our house and its achievements. It was great to see so many artists putting their skills to good use, creating brilliant posters. Students who took part received house points for their hard work. The overall winners for Walsingham were Ancy Lobo and Cristina Hart, both 8M. A huge congratulations to them both and well done to all that took part.

The Music Festival, ran by Miss Collins gave our very talented Walsingham singers and musicians the opportunity to show off their very impressive skills. A huge well done to all those that took part: Emma Rajska, 10M, Lucy Bailey, 10M, Henry Firth, 9E, Orla Blake, 9E, Ethan Scanlon, 7M, Lincolna Pereira, 7M and Jacob Skittrall, 7E. Well deserved House points were awarded to these students.

Sports Day is coming up very soon, which is your chance to show your sports skills! If you are interested in taking part in any Sports Day events, please speak to your tutor who will put your name forward. This is our one last big chance this year to push our house point total score to the winning position!

Keep working hard Walsingham – 'Believe and Achieve'