



St Dominic's School Friday Flyer

September 16th 2016



dates for your diary

Tuesday 20th September

Open Morning

Tuesday 27th September

Holocaust Memorial Day

Wednesday 19th October

Harvest Festival

21st – 30th October (inclusive)

Half-term Holiday

Friday 4th November

Parents Afternoon for new pupils

Thursday 10th November

Presentation Evening for Year 11 and 6th Form Leavers.

6:30pm - GCSE Art & Photography
Exhibition and buffet in main hall.

7:30pm - Presentations in Chapel

Friday 11th November

- Armistice Day
- Parents Afternoon for Sixth Form

Monday 14th November

Start of Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 18th November

- Children in Need Day
- Christmas Fair

Friday 25th November

Staff INSET (In Service Training) Day

Wednesday 14th December

Christmas Lunch – Pupils and Students

Friday 16th December

- Christmas Jumper Day
- Celebratory Assembly

Wednesday 21st December

Last Day of Term

Family Forum / Christmas Liturgy and Carols

Christmas Holidays

21st December 2016 to 3rd January 2017
inclusive

Attendance - The whole school attendance for last week was **94%**.

Do the Right Thing!

KS2 Golden Apple Award

Falcons	–	Connor Marshall
Eagles	–	William Kelly and Owen Lyne (tie)
Ospreys	–	Tom Devon

School Event Diaries

The school event diaries for Autumn Term 2016 and Spring and Summer Terms 2017 have been agreed and can be found on our website under the 'Downloads' section.

Student Voice Election

The Student Voice Election took place on Wednesday. The results of the election will be announced in assembly next week and reported in the Friday Flyer.

Attendance

At St. Dominic's we are continually working to improve whole school and individual attendance. Every week on the Friday Flyer we share the percentage attendance for the previous week and we welcome your support to constantly improve these figures. Good attendance is important for many reasons which include:

- making maximum use of educational opportunities
- creating a good work ethic and establishing a robust routine
- maintaining social interaction with peers

Our leavers will require high levels of attendance in order to be considered by Post-16 and 19 education and training providers.

Reporting an Absence

If your son or daughter is unable to come to school then you will need to phone into the school office and leave a message or speak to Reception before 8.30am detailing why the reason for absence. It is also possible to email your son or daughter's Tutor and the school office email in case the tutor does not see the email before the start of the school day. The email address is office@stdominicsschool.org.uk. If we do not hear from parents/carers and a pupil or student has not arrived at school we then contact taxi companies in the first instance and then parents and carers as we need to ensure that all pupils and students are safe.

If your son or daughter has a medical appointment, then the School Office or Form Tutor need to be notified in advance of the appointment. In the event of you wishing to take your son or daughter out of school for other reasons then you need to write to Mrs Drayton, our Principal to make that request. Mrs Drayton will then respond in writing to confirm whether the absence has been agreed.

Many thanks for your support - Mrs Willis

Lunch Break Activities

Walking club

This Tuesday lunch time, the Walking Club had their first walk of the new term. Despite it being a very hot day, Josh, Olly, Aaron and Louis were not deterred and were all keen for a walk on the Common. Fortunately, the path we took was cool as it was lined by lovely big trees that provided welcome shade. Mr Wells came with us to help find the entrance from the Common onto the school grounds as this had become overgrown due to the summer rain and sun. It was a team effort and we successfully found the entrance. Josh led us to the correct path after taking a small detour. Louis did an excellent job to avoid the stinging nettles.

We all had a surprise when a baby squirrel jumped down a tree and startled Aaron. We were not sure who got more of a fright - Aaron or the squirrel!

Louis and Aaron re-enact their squirrel experience for us!



New Portakabin

During the summer break we had some new portakabin classrooms installed on the school site. This was going to be a difficult task from the start due to the route up to the main carpark. The transport company visited site and with a huge sigh reported that it was possible with a few alterations. The following week we started with the alterations which involved trimming down some of the trees and bushes and removing one of the front gates. On the day of the installation a crane turned up and slowly during the morning three units arrived on lorries and were put into place on the tennis court area. As you can see from the pictures it was a momentous task and precision driving was required to get them to the top.



New Start for Year 10 Options

This week, pupils were allowed to choose their own recipes as in Year 10 there is an increased emphasis on pupils working independently as part of their life skills.



"You can get a bit nervous when you come back from the school holidays but it's not that bad and when you finally get started it actually can be a good experience. It's really good fun and when you get to the end of your lesson you can clearly say to yourself 'well done'!"

David



"These lessons will make me feel more grown-up now that I'll be able to cook like an adult!"

Tyrese



Thank you to Mrs Drayton for giving pupils, students, and staff an ice lolly on the hottest day of September that we have had for over 50 years! It was a much-welcomed treat and everyone really appreciated it!

Weekly Focus on English Across the Curriculum

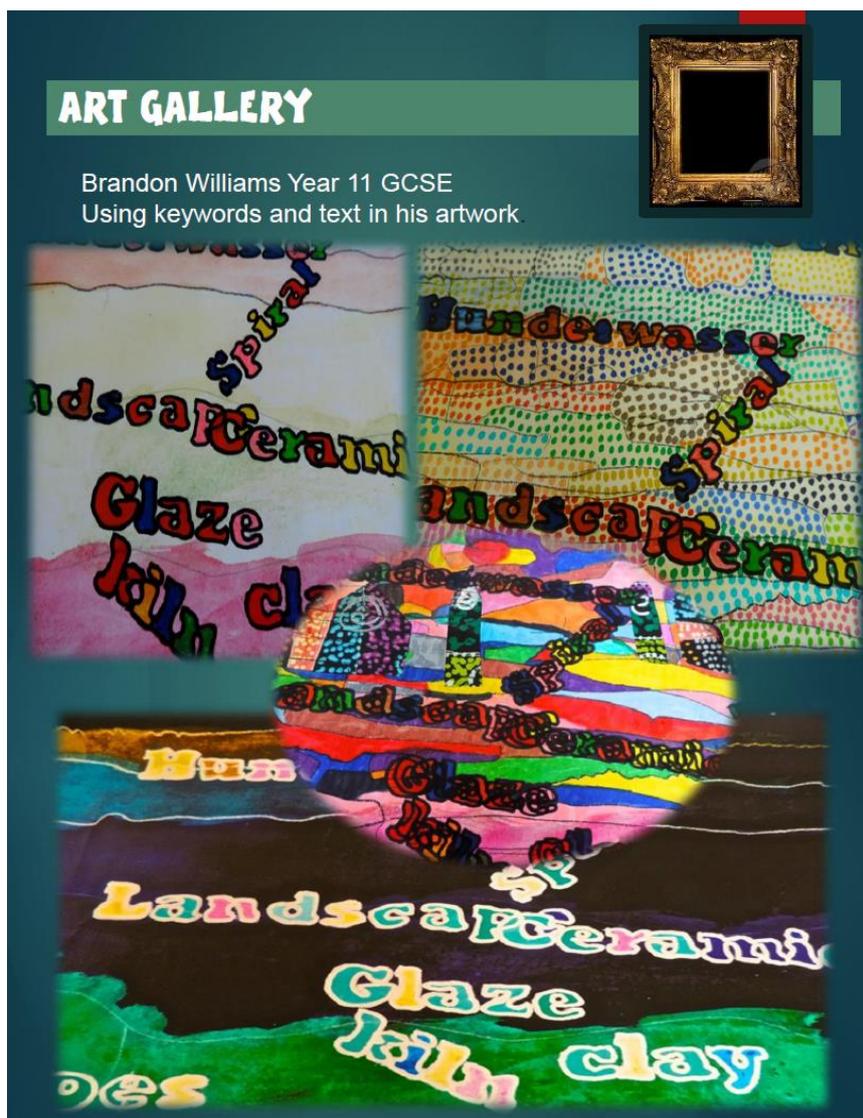
English in Residential

In the residential area, English is used all the time and pupils have further opportunities to practise their English language skills in informal surroundings, complementing what they have learnt during lesson time.

Pupils have opportunities to practise their listening and speaking skills in Residential meetings when discussing with staff their evening routines; when completing their homework and getting support from staff if needed; when having discussions and debates over dinner; when socialising with their peers and having discussions with staff; and when communicating during evening activities such as sport and when playing board games where teamwork skills are also developed through communication.

Pupils' reading skills are further developed when taking part in independent cooking and travel skills where they will have to read recipes and signs and need to follow them in order to be successful. Pupils' writing skills are further developed when they have to do school or college work in their free time in the evenings.

English in Art



St. Dominic's School - Social Communication Programme

HANDS UP

- The target is to encourage pupils to understand the different conventions of responding appropriately within groups
- Sometimes groups require pupils to put their hands up before offering an answer
- At other times lessons may be based on a discussion model
- Pupils may not recognise the different requirements without support.

Facts re ASD

- Pupils often have difficulty with cognitive flexibility
- They find it difficult to adjust to different rules within social contexts
- They do not easily recognise which behaviour is required and when they need to adapt the way they make contributions e.g. within a lesson/discussion
- They need to have explicit instructions so that they know what is expected of them on each separate occasion.

Suggested Script

- This is a hands up activity. You will need to put your hand up to answer
- Hands up to answer. I will ask the people who have their hands up
- This is a discussion. You do not need to put your hand up before you speak. Everyone can join in when they have something to say.

Hints and Tips

- Tell pupils whether they are expected to put their hand up or not
- This is a hands up activity
- You do not need to put your hand up to answer/contribute
- This is also helpful for pupils who struggle to inhibit calling out in lessons
- Be prepared to give regular reminders, as they might have poor short-term memory
- Remember that it can take time to change established behaviours
- Remember the value of praise when pupils have achieved the target
- Ensure that you only accept answers from pupils who have raised their hands to answer and do not respond to pupils who have called out
- Make it clear that this is what you are doing. Say 'I am taking answers from people with their hands up. If you want to answer you need to raise your hand'.

Prime Factors Puzzle

6	15		
10			
	1210		
33		33	

The numbers 2 3 5 11 appear once in each box, row and column

The numbers in the intersections of the boxes show the products of the numbers in those boxes

A prize will be given to the pupil or student who gives the first correct answer to Mr Johnston by lunchtime Thursday 22nd September.

Menu for week beginning Monday 19th September 2016

MENU	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST					Cooked Breakfast
MORNING SNACK	Rock Cakes	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	Blueberry Muffin	Fresh Fruit
LUNCH	Sweet & Sour Pork With Rice Vegetable, Spinach Lasagne with Garlic Bread Jacket Potato Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Bar Tuna Mayonnaise & Sweetcorn	Sausages, Onions & Gravy Macaroni Cheese Mashed Potatoes Jacket Potato Carrots Puree of Sweet Potatoes Fresh Salad Bar Slice Cheese	Sliced Boiled Ham & Gravy Quorn Mince & Onion Pie Roast Potatoes Jacket Potato Savoy Cabbage Sliced Green Beans Fresh Salad Bar Pork Pie	Diced Chicken Curry Rice & Naan Bread Stuffed Flat Mushroom New Potatoes Jacket Potato Braised Red Cabbage Creamed Leeks Fresh Salad Bar Sliced Chicken	Breaded Fish Vegetable Fritta Chips Jacket Potato Baked Beans Peas Fresh Salad Bar Sliced Ham
DESSERT	Pineapple Upside Down Pudding with Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Mixed Fruit Cheese Cake with Cream Fresh Fruit Mixed Fruit Yogurt	Trifle with Cream Fresh Fruit Yogurt	Bread & Butter Pudding with Cream Fresh Fruit Fruit Yogurt Flapjacks	Pear Tart with Cream Fresh Fruit Strawberry Yoghurt Cheese Straws
AFTERNOON SNACK	Chocolate Chip Cookies	Sultana Fairy Cake	Banana Bread	Flapjacks	Cheese Straws
SUPPER	Beef & Vegetable Pie New Potatoes Cauliflower	Chicken Fajita Wedge Potatoes Salad	Beef Hotpot Broccoli	Pork Steak Croquette Potatoes Cabbage	



We are delighted. Our son has made a good start at the school. He is well-settled and making progress.

in association with  The National Autistic Society

the autism show

sponsored by  Hesley Group

The National Event for Autism (including Asperger syndrome)

London	Birmingham	Manchester
16-17 JUNE 2017 EXCEL	23-24 JUNE 2017 NEC	30 JUNE-1 JULY 2017 EVENTCITY

Assemblies

W/C 12th September 2016 Theme – New Beginnings

Monday 12th September

Mrs Willis introduced our Student Voice programme, with the help of two current Student Voice representatives, Zack and Aaron. Student Voice is part of the decision-making process at St Dominic's, whereby each and every student can have a say in what they would like to see improved at the school. Representatives are voted into office from each year group, elections are held at the beginning of the school year, and the successful candidate serves as a representative for their school year (plus 6th form rep and residential rep from each boarding area) for that current year. Students put themselves forward as a candidate, they present themselves to their year group and some choose to say a bit about why they would like to be a representative. A secret ballot for each year group takes place and the successful candidate then becomes the Student Voice Rep for the year. Being a Student Voice Rep is more than just 'getting the glory', it requires a willingness to be a good role model, to be able to discuss important issues sensibly and being a good listener. All the students and pupils listened very attentively.

Tuesday 13th September

This morning's Assembly was a change from the norm – a whole school assembly instead of KS 2/3 – and we had a double whammy – meeting the two members of our clergy team – Reverend Marion Warren and Reverend Catherine McBride – and also seeing Music Works in school for the first time this year! Both of our clergy briefly introduced themselves, particularly for the benefit of new pupils and staff and then Music Works took us through a musical story of the Queen's 90 years, as she attained the age of 90 earlier in the year. We had jazz from the 20s/30s, swing from the 40s, rock from the 50s, and a variety of popular tunes from the 60s – teens. Everyone seemed to be 'getting into the groove', clapping and singing along – a great way to start a Tuesday.

Wednesday 14th September

Extended tutor time – Student Voice elections

Thursday 15th September

Mrs Morgan picked up our weekly theme of Self-Identity today. We explored the definition of self-identity – the recognition of one's potential and qualities as an individual, especially in relation to social context. So, what are you like as a person (qualities)? What makes us who we are? – Suggestions – family, personality, friends, experiences, the things you do such as hobbies and pastimes, your school or work environment. Lots of suggestions from students who had really thought about this. Mrs Morgan then talked about a book (also a film) called Still Alice. It is about a woman, in her 50s, who developed Alzheimer's disease, a form of early onset dementia. Alice had been a top university professor, had three grown-up children and travelled the world. As the disease progressed she lost so much of her memory and language that she couldn't recognise who was looking after her (her daughters), where she was or anything about her past. Some of the students had really interesting information to share about their understanding of Alzheimer's Disease and what Mrs Morgan also shared was that Alice wanted to share aspects of her disease with those who didn't know, so that people would become more aware and less frightened by something that does, on occasion, seem to be very frightening to the onlooker. She travelled widely and was able to begin to write the book with help from other professionals and family, who took up the story when she was unable.

Friday 16th September

Mr Oliver and the residential staff team led today's assembly. We had a wonderful slide show of some of the activities that boarders at St Dom's take part in. Mr Oliver explained that some pupils and students stay all week, others stay for one or two nights, others have an extended day until after homework club and others stay into the evening to participate in the activities. The members of the residential team in Phoenix House and 6th Form were introduced, so that we all know who they are. Mr Oliver reminded us that all members of staff should be given the same respect, whether they are teachers, support staff or residential. Good News was then shared, a lovely end to the week.