WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

A busy and exciting end-of-year programme finally comes to a close today. Sports Day last week saw fabulous weather, ideal conditions, a large crowd of supportive parents and some great competition. Alban House were crowned Sports Day and Sports Week champions with Bede winning the Year 8 contest – good to see them achieve some success at last. This week in Celebration assembly certificates and other trophies and prizes were presented and the overall House Championship was this year won by Columba. Congratulations. Jonah McIntyre and Eden Hill collected the trophy. Well done to all prize-winners.

Year 8 Leavers

Presentations were made to Year 8 Leavers at a special evening on Tuesday. Musical performances from Sam Gibbard and Annie Highton entertained the audience of students, staff and parents and certificates were awarded for achievement, effort and progress in each subject along with awards for those who completed the “Pledges” challenge and peer mentoring. Mrs Conroy spoke on behalf of the Governors, Savannah and Ben on behalf of the students and Mr Welsh congratulated Year 8 on their achievements, growing confidence and wished them well for the future. The PSA hosted a reception outside afterwards. It is a splendid occasion for the school and has therefore been part of our community for many years with their youngest now leaving from Year 8.

Quiet Garden Blessing

Monday afternoon saw the official opening, organising and hosting. people’s time here. Thanks to Mrs Meaney for their contribution to the。“Pledges” challenge and peer mentoring. Mrs Conroy spoke on behalf of the Governors, Savannah and Ben on behalf of the students and Mr Welsh congratulated Year 8 on their achievements, growing confidence and wished them well for the future. The PSA hosted a reception outside afterwards. It is a splendid event and a fitting, formal end to the young people’s time here. Thanks to Mrs Meaney for their contribution to the organisation and hosting.

Exam Success

Year 6 SATs results were released this week. Once again the results are pleasing with the overall combined score in Reading, Writing & maths well ahead of the National average at 73%. This is also the case at the top end ‘in greater depth’ too. Well done all. Year 8 transfer test results were also hugely encouraging for our top year students moving on now to their upper schools.

Service to Others

In our celebration of reading assembly as well as hearing about the latest millionaire readers, Honours readers and other achievements we also heard news from the Lizalex School in Ghana, always so grateful for our donations of books to stock their library – SIERF library named after the Lizalex. We raised over £400 and both this and the Lizalex are good evidence of how we try to live out the value in our school of service to others.

Goodbye and Good Luck

As it is the end of term it is also time when we say goodbye to some of our students and also some of our staff team. Mrs Giles, Miss Williams and Mr Rodin have been valued members of our teaching support team over the past few years and move on today. We want to thank them for all they have done in going those extra miles with their support and care for our children. We also this week have welcomed back Mrs Mackenzie following her maternity leave.

It is also a time when we say goodbye to some families who have had two or three or more children through our school and have therefore been part of our community for many years with their youngest now leaving from Year 8. We wish you all well if that is you. And we particularly want to thank Cathrina Newman for her huge commitment in co-chairing the PSA and also Suzy Tuomey for her work over many years in support of the school productions.

Ready, Steady…. Go!

and friends were joined by Ruth’s husband and members of her family for the ceremony and for tea and cake afterwards. Children are already enjoying its use and spending time in there sitting, chatting, reading or just being still amid the hurly-burly of the school day.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Scopay online payment facility for our school will not be available during the summer holidays due to our financial year end. It will be up and running again in September.

Next Term

We wish a happy, peaceful and enjoyable summer to all our readers. We return for the next school year on Thursday 5th September at the usual time of 8.35am (The two days before this are staff training days). Enjoy the holidays.

Tutor Groups for September

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<td>Miss Moultray</td>
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<td>Miss Cairns</td>
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<td>5/3</td>
<td>Mrs Millington</td>
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<td>Miss Chambers</td>
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<td>Miss Stansfield</td>
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<td>Miss Ait Idir</td>
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<td>Miss Braine</td>
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<td>Mr. Fabian</td>
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<td>Mr. Mackenzie</td>
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Here’s some of our students enjoying the Quiet Garden on Blue & Yellow Day. Pupils wear blue and yellow clothes and donate £1 to the Alexander Devine Charity. The day raised over £400. Thank you for your generosity as ever.

Here’s Nishi, our Sterf’s Got Talent Winner performing Your Song by Ellie Goulding (and Elton of course!)
Sports & PE Update

During sports and health week it was great to see so many of our pupils determined to gain House points for their house by being active. Each day we had hundreds of pupils walking to school, completing the daily mile, eating healthy snacks and engaging in all the extra-curricular activities that were on offer.

Pupils were all really excited to be participating in the smoothie workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday. Pupils spent time with Aspens discussing the benefits of healthy eating and how it will affect the daily activities. Pupils had to complete a flip the cup challenge to determine a winner to ride the smoothie bike and blend the smoothie.

As usual the weather was glorious for sports day and pupils showed true Sterf determination when competing in all events. Alban were victorious this year followed very closely by Bede. Many thanks go to Mrs Spencer, Archie H, Molly L, Zara B, Matthew W and all of the WGS helpers for their hard work and help with events on the day.

Pupils completed our sports and health week with their wellbeing day. They enjoyed a variety of activities all focused on their health and mental well-being. Pupils were very lucky to experience lots of different activities and to have time to reflect on their lives. Finally if any parents would like to support us next year in the delivery of sports clubs after school please get in touch.

Here’s five useful articles for parents to help keep their children safe online over the Summer supplied by our Online trainer, Paul Hay.

1. Gaming: what parents and carers need to know
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/
Many children will be spending time gaming online over the summer holidays. This article explores the different elements of gaming with a particular focus on how it can be used by offenders but focusing on what parents can do to support their child while gaming.

2. Sharing pictures of your child online
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Sharing-pictures-of-your-children
Lots of parents love sharing photos of their children with friends and family, particularly when they are on holiday or starting the new school year. A recent report found that 42% of young people reported that their parents had done this without asking their permission. Our article helps parents to protect their child while staying social.

3. Keeping your under 5s safe online
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/keeping-your-under-five-safe-online
Whether it’s watching videos, playing games on their devices or talking to Alexa - today’s under 5s are spending more time online. In this article we look at the benefits of children accessing the internet, and share advice about how parents can make sure their child has a safe experience online.

4. Live streaming: responding to the risks
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks
Many children enjoy live streaming as it can be used to showcase talent, develop communication skills and create identity. Our article helps parents to understand why children love it, what the risks can be, and how they can help their child stay safe if they are live streaming.

5. Using parental controls
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Parental-controls
Parental controls are a great tool for helping to protect children but should not replace open and honest conversations with children about their life online. Share these tips on how to use parental controls effectively.

More helpful advice can also be found here
www.pclstraining.com/links

A reminder school closes today at 2pm