



Dates for the Diary

May 2008

Mon 5	May Day Holiday
Tu 6	GCSE & A-Level exams begin
Thur 8	Music Cabaret Evening 7.30 pm
Fri 9	Y5 - 9 PHSE talks
Mon 12	Head's Surgery 6pm
Thur 15	Art Exhibition. Opening 6pm
Fri 16	Y8 History Trip
Sat 17	Open Morning 10am-12.30pm
19-23	Y10 Work Experience Week
Tu 20	Visiting author at school
Fri 23	First Holy Communion

25 -30 inclusive HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

June 2008

Mon 2	Head's Surgery 6pm
Tu 3	Yr 7/8 Athletics at Rowley Park
Wed 4	Senior ISA Athletics Championships, Birmingham; all day
Thur 5	Yr 7/8 Athletics at Rowley Park 4.30pm
Sat 7	U15 & U15 County Athletics Championships
9 - 13	Senior School Exam week
Tu 10	Yr 7/8 Athletics at Rowley Park 4.30pm
Thur 12	Junior ISA Athletics Championships, Birmingham; all day
Mon 16	U13 Stafford & District Rounders Tournament 4pm
Wed 18	Y10 Careers talk with Connexions Advisor
Thur 19	Y7/Y8 Stafford & District Athletics Championships at Rowley Park, 4.30pm
Mon 23	U15 Stafford & District Rounders Tournament 4pm
Mon 30	Leavers Mass Sixth Form Induction

Do you have any news??

If you would like to share any news that you have with the school community via the School News then please e-mail: marketing@st-dominicspriory.staffs.sch.uk

Alternatively drop a note into the school office marked for the attention of 'Marketing'.

Summer Term 2008

We begin the new term in good spirits, after a long Easter break much enjoyed by all, especially those lucky enough to go away for the holiday. I hope everyone has returned full of energy and enthusiasm as this term is a busy one, with GCSE and A-Level examinations as well as Open Day on Saturday 17th, a packed sporting programme, school excursions, Sports Day, Presentation Evening, Prize Giving and the Prep School production 'Rest Assured'. We are also actively recruiting a Deputy Headteacher and Prep. Department teacher for September, in addition to several other school posts.

Fun in the sun (and snow!)



Forty skiers from Years 6 – 11, accompanied by staff and parents, spent a week in Pila, in the Aosta valley in Italy. Following a coach drive across France and Italy, which left school on the first Saturday of the Easter holidays, the group finally arrived at the resort on Sunday just in time for lunch.

They enjoyed sunny blue skies, fantastic snow, dramatic scenery and action packed days. Students were split into five groups and received 4 hours of tuition each day for six days. The instructors were a mix of English, Italian, Scottish and Czech. All pupils made great progress during their week of ski lessons and achieved 1 star, 2 star, 3 star and 4 star awards from their instructors at the presentation evening at the end of the week.

Evening après ski activities included bowling, ice skating, pizza night, a visit to the Nike factory and karaoke. Mrs Coombs from Primary 4 conquered her fear and descended the 'ice wall' whilst Miss Capper and Mr Bishop tried a new experience with a tango on skis. Plans are already underway for another trip next year, although this time by air! - Miss Capper

On another note....

Congratulations to the following on their latest exam results: Rosina Bloor (Y10) Grade 5 Piano with Distinction; Emily Tabbernor (Y8) Grade 1 Piano with Distinction; Ashleigh Brookes (Y8) Grade 1 Violin with Merit; Madeleine Curtis (Y10) Grade 5 Piano; Jessica Mierau (Y10) Grade 5 Piano; Charlotte Hill (LVI) Grade 5 Theory, Eleanor Davies (Y9) Grade 4 Flute.

We eagerly await the results of the recent Lamda examinations.

Notices

SMILE TU
...Supporting Mombasa in a Learning Experience ...

Presents an evening of music & laughter with



**The Priory Hall,
Saturday 17th May,
2008, 7.30pm**
Tickets £8.00 / £6.50
Brenda Tucker
01785 760682

PTA Coffee Morning

All are welcome to the next PTA coffee morning on Thursday 15th May at 9.10am in the Dining Room.

Cabaret Evening

Thursday 8th May
Priory Hall, 7.30pm
All welcome
Free Admission

Cute as a button!



Congratulations to Mrs Leech on the birth of her first grandchild, Freya Joanna Leech.

Reminder

The school office would greatly appreciate it if parents could address all letters containing fees or related matters to 'The Finance Office'. It makes sorting the mail much easier! Thank you.

The Invasion of Alton Castle—Mrs Phillips

As term commenced, 78 girls from Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 descended on Alton Castle, accompanied by 8 teachers, for an exciting few days of activities, prayer and reflection. The girls and staff participated in a muddy bike ride, trekking, archery, a survival course and scaling the indoor climbing wall. Everyone was encouraged to give their best shot, and Mrs Carey certainly did with her perfect bull's eye in the archery competition! The activities were all very challenging and the girls should be proud of their achievements. The retreat was also an opportunity for our pupils to pray and reflect on their attitudes and beliefs. Mass on Thursday evening was a joyous occasion with some lovely new hymns learnt. Following Mass we had an entertainment evening, where Sarah Healings received rapturous applause for her rendition of 'Eternal Flame'. We all returned home exhausted, but fulfilled.

High Sheriff of Stafford

Mrs Katie Evans has been sworn in as the new High Sheriff of Staffordshire, at a ceremony in April attended by the Honourable Mr. Justice Goldring. The first appointment of the High Sherriff of Staffordshire dates back to 1387 when William Chetwynd of Ingestre Hall was appointed. Those attending the ceremony enjoyed a performance by 27 students aged 11 to 18, from the Senior School Choir at St. Dominic's Priory School, Stone. The choir performed Veni Lumen Cordium by Margaret Rizza and Salve Regina was performed by soloist Charlotte Hill. Our students felt privileged to be able to support Katie at the inauguration as she is only one of a handful of female in over 500 dignitaries to have taken on the position. We will see Katie again at the Prep School Prize Day.

Breaking the bank!

Emma Hall, Giulia Landi and Emelia Harker from P6 raised over £150 for their Lent Charity, Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

£804 was raised for SMILE TU by the Prep and Senior students together.

Well done to everyone!

And Finally.....

We are currently working on distributing the School Newsletter by e-mail as well as by hard copy. If you would like to receive the School Newsletter by e-mail please could you forward an e-mail titled 'School Newsletter' to:

marketing@st-dominicspriory.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you to all who have already responded!

Making History in Manchester

Old Girl Tamsin Sawyer (St Dominic's 1991-2003), has been awarded the *Distinguished Achievement Award for Student of the Year* at the University of Manchester. Nominated by the Humanities Faculty for her commitment and dedication to her studies, Tamsin (currently in her final year reading History) was selected from the whole university student population of more than 25,000 students! Having specialised in Child Labour in London from the late 19th Century to early 20th Century, Tamsin plans to take a year out before beginning her Masters Degree. In the future, she hopes to become a researcher for the BBC - watch this space! Tamsin's sister, Ella, who currently teaches Drama in school, was beaming with pride as she shared Tamsin's good news. Her award will be presented on June 10th 2008.

Presentation Evening

In April over 100 guests and students joined together to celebrate the public exam success of last year's Y11, LVI and UVI Form at the school's Presentation Evening. Having received their certificates, former and current students were able to mingle and enjoy each other's company again.

Never too young to start

Primary 1 raised over £100 from the sale of their St Dominic's Calendars earlier this year. This money has been used to purchase a set of micro keyboards (for small hands) for the primary ICT classes and the new equipment has been utilised with great enthusiasm. Primary 1 have been developing their touch-typing, word processing and graphical work this term.

- Mrs Dunk