



Busy, Busy, Busy!

Dates for the Diary

June 2008

- Mon 23 U15 Stafford & District Rounders
Tournament 4pm
Senior Art Trip to Barcelona
- Thu 26— Prep School play 'Rest Assured'
Fri 27
- Mon 30 Leaver's Mass
VI Form Induction

July 2008

- Tu 1 VI Form induction
- Wed 2 New Year 7 Welcome Day
Parents' Evening 3.30pm Priory Hall
- Fri 4 Prep School Prize-Giving & Sports:
10am
- Mon 7 Class Mass: Lower VI and P1
Head's Surgery 6pm
- Tu 8 Juniors to Chester Zoo
Senior Prize-Giving: 7.30pm
- Wed 9 Book Sale: 11.30am
Form Markets: 1.30pm
- Thur 10 Whole School Assembly: 11.45am
TERM ENDS 12.30
- Fri 11 Staff INSET day

*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'.

Welcome to this month's bumper edition of the School News. Students from across the whole school have been exceptionally busy both in and out of school. There have been some wonderful individual results, particularly in drama and sports; the Art Exhibition was a tremendous success and a number of educational visits have captured the imagination of all involved. New this month is the 'Year 9 Newsletter', which can be found on the back page. It is the creation 'of the students for the students,' and those involved from Year 9 have worked very hard on their Newsletter and I know are looking forward to receiving feedback.

Staff have also been busy this term, with external and internal examinations, as well as supporting the activities that I am sure you will enjoy reading about. I am also very pleased to announce that we have appointed Mr. Nick Soar as our new Deputy Headteacher and Miss Karen Clarke who will be taking over from Mrs Borgman as Primary 5 Teacher. Both will be joining us in September.

Mrs Pat Adamson

Brilliant, Amazing, Exceptional

St. Dominic's offers its heartiest congratulations to all Miss Sawyer's students on achieving another set of excellent exam results. All 36 girls who took their exams on the 14th/15th April passed, with 91% of the candidates achieving Merit or Distinction (including every single girl entered from Primary 3, 4, 5, 6, Year 11, and Sixth Form).

Miss Sawyer said, "I would like the children to consider just how amazing all of the results are. As the standard at St Dominic's is so high, some students have come to expect Merits and Distinctions as a norm, but this is certainly not the case!" Visiting examiners frequently comment on the very high standards at St. Dominic's, to the extent that some have gone on to describe us as a school of excellence because of the continuously high Speech and Drama results.

Primary 5 Speech & Drama: Summer Higgs, Zara Isteed, Lucy Hodgson, Fiona Sellers, Celine Heraty, Brittany Warnes, Holly Machin, Katie Hands, Lauren Brown, Katie Lovewell.

Indeed, other Speech and Drama teachers often express surprise at the number of Distinctions and Merits achieved by St. Dominic's students and children from other schools have commented, "But my teacher says nobody ever gets distinction!"

Miss Sawyer concludes: "As I am constantly reminding the girls: to pass is brilliant, to pass with Merit is amazing, and to pass with Distinction is exceptional!"



Individual LAMDA Results

Preliminary Exam, Distinction: P3 Lauren Charlton, Helena Cumberbatch, Ashleigh Davies, Olivia Egan, Eleanor Gardiner, Katya Helliker, Daisie Mierau, Bethany Pountney; **P4** Holly Packham, Lucy Naylor, Emilia Wyatt. **Entry Exam, Distinction:** Brittany Cartwright (P4) **Grade 1, Distinction: P4** Leonie Grant; **P5** Lucy Hodgeson, Katie Lovewell, Holly Machin, Fiona Sellers, Brittany Warnes, Katie Hands; **Grade 1, Merit: P5** Celine Heraty, Zara Isteed, Lauren Brown, Summer Higgs. **Grade 2, Distinction:** Holly Stow (P6). **Verse & Prose Grade 2, Distinction:** Elyse Mauger (Y8); **Merit:** Claudia Wyatt (Y8). **Acting Grade 2, Distinction:** Caroline Furey (Y8). **Duologue Grade 2, Pass:** Rosie Davis & Olivia Hart (Y8). **Verse & Prose Grade 3, Distinction:** Charlotte Reid. **Acting Grade 4, Merit:** Lauren Haynes (Y9); **Pass:** Alice Jones (Y9). **Acting Grade 6 Bronze Medal, Distinction: Y11** Emily Green, Elizabeth Lewis; **Merit** Catherine Godon (UVI). **Verse & Prose Grade 7 Silver Medal, Distinction:** Harriet Matthews (UVI).

News in Brief

Expanding Horizons

Introducing two new activities in school from next term:

Canoeing



and



Dancing

More details in September

PFA raises £200

£200 was raised by the PFA on Cabaret Night for the Music/Drama Fund. In total 71 students participated in the Cabaret which proved to be an enjoyable evening for both performers and guests.

Dates for the Diary



Eccleshall Castle
29th June
2.00pm–4.30pm
Admission £3

Come along and support our Senior Musicians performing in the grounds of Eccleshall Castle on Sunday 29th June. Please note performers do not need tickets

Duke of Edinburgh Latest

Members of years 10 and 11 are busy preparing for two expedition weekends this term. On 21/22 June they will be on expedition in the Wetton area of the Peak District, closely followed by their final assessment weekend for the Bronze Award on 5/6 July, on and around The Roaches.

As these candidates look forward to the completion of their Bronze award, a much greater reward awaits "The Famous Five" - Sarah Harding, Steph Hughes, Amy Leighton, Antonia Milner and Rachel Tabbernor from the Upper Sixth. They all completed their Gold award at the beginning of the year and were presented with their prestigious badges at the Stafford and Stone Award Presentation in March.

They are now eagerly awaiting the arrival of their invitations to St James' Palace for the official presentation of their Gold award certificates.



The 'Famous Five'

Going back in time



Stoke-on-Trent is world famous for its pottery and Primary 1 and 2 found out why, when they discovered how bone china tableware was made in the original workshops and giant bottle kilns of the former Gladstone China Works, now preserved as the last complete Victorian Pottery factory in the country.

In Victorian times, Gladstone was not a famous pottery, however it was typical of hundreds of similar factories in the area making everyday ceramic items for the mass market. Today, however, it is a world famous museum. The children were able to make their own ceramic pots which were then fired and decorated back at school.

Maypole Dancing



Children from Primary 2-6 participating at St. Michaels Church Flower Festival on Friday 9th May.

History at Little Moreton Hall

Year 8 enjoyed a History Trip recently to Little Moreton Hall, Congleton. A fascinating tour of the hall by costumed guides was followed by informative discussions about Tudor customs, Tudor technology and Tudor herbs and spices.

At lunchtime everyone enjoyed the authentic Tudor lunch, including chicken legs, ginger biscuits and ginger beer, which concluded a truly wonderful and memorable day.



Little Moreton Hall:
Cheshire's most iconic black & white house.

Cheshire Festival of Speech and Drama Results

Students from the Prep School continued to shine at this year's Cheshire Festival of Speech and Drama. The Following students all gained Certificates of Merit: Evie Scholes (P2), Olivia Egan, Katya Helliker, Ashleigh Davies (P3), Fiona Sellers, Katie Lovewell (P4) and Hollie Stow, Emma Scholes and Harriet Mauger (P6). Olivia Egan came an impressive first in 'Verse speaking 7 years and under' with Evie Scholes coming second. Fiona Sellers came second in 'Prose Reading 9 years' and fourth in 'Verses Speaking 8/9 years.'

Sports Results

Miss Capper and students from across the whole school have been exceptionally busy over the past few weeks attending and competing, with great success, at a number of different sporting events. Results as follows:

Athletics

Stafford & District Athletics Championships

U17 Javelin— District *Champion* Jessica Mierau
 U17 High Jump— District Runner Up Zoe Groom
 U15 Javelin— District *Champion* Niamh Murphy
 U15 Javelin— District Runner Up Josie Hulme
 U15 Long Jump - 3rd Steffie Walters
 U15 200m—6th Charlotte Reid
 U15 Shot - 4th Charlotte Reid
 Jessica, Niamh, Josie and Zoe have all been selected to represent the District at the Staffordshire County Championships at Cannock on Saturday 14th June.

Tennis

Nestle National Competition Staffordshire County Section

U13s beat Newcastle A 5-1
 U13s beat Orme House 6-0
 U13s beat St. Joseph's Coll 5-1
 Charlotte Reid, Lauren Bathew, Emma Cork and Steffie Walters have now qualified as group winners for the semi finals. They will play St. Edward's Middle School, Leek in the next round.

U15s beat Stafford Grammar 4-2
 U15s beat Madeley High 6-0
 U15s lost Newcastle 6-0

Friendly doubles matches

U13/U12 St. Dominic's Stone 11-5 St. Dominic's Brewood
 U13/U12 St. Dominic's Stone 7-5 Walton High Mixed

Rounders

U15s beat St. Dominic's Brewood 21½ - 4½
 U13s beat St. Dominic's Brewood 12½ - 5½

Football

Mr Hands has now led two very enjoyable after school football sessions. These are open to anyone from Pr 5 to Year 9.

Rowing

Daz Barton from Trentham Rowing Club gave the Year 7 girls two indoor rowing taster sessions. Girls all enjoyed the challenges set. Four girls were invited to join some outdoor rowing sessions over half term on Trentham Lake.



Daz Barton demonstrating the art of rowing

Budding Artists display their wares

More than 20 GCSE and A Level students are displaying their latest work at an Art and Textiles Exhibition held in the Cloisters area at school. The students, inspired by a wide range of artists from Louise Bourgeois, Chagall and Juan Gris, have utilised a wide variety of materials to produce a spectacular display of colour and texture. The displays, a combination of examination work for both Art and Textiles, encompass a number of themes. The School has a long tradition of developing students' artistic abilities and this latest exhibition shows that the Art Department's reputation is well deserved. Students are encouraged to explore their ideas in an imaginative way, producing outstanding pieces that inspire the whole school.



Examples of students' work



News Updates

Fundraising

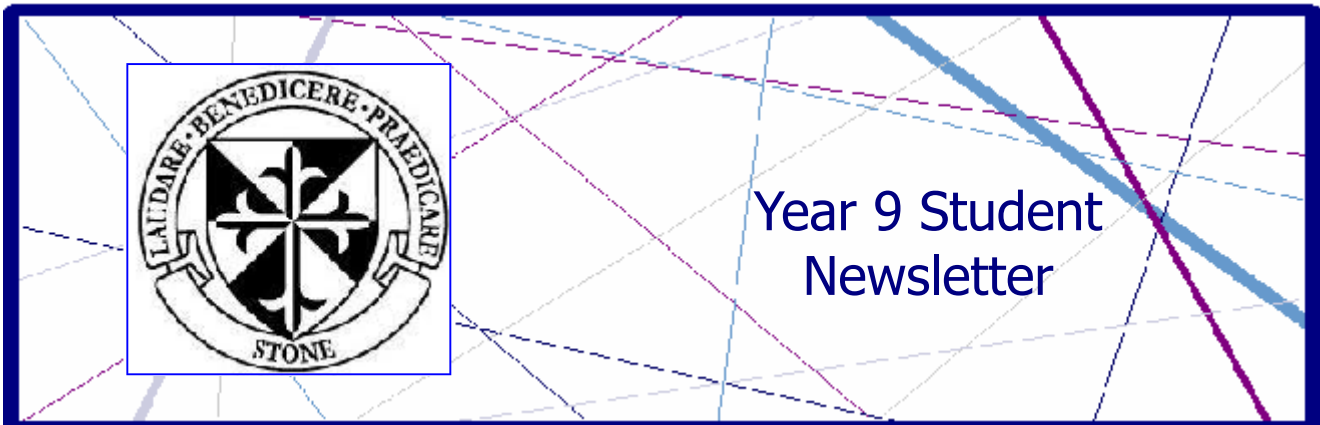
Katy Francis & Claudia Wyatt really enjoyed themselves raising £111 for CICRA (Crohn's Research in Childhood Association) by selling home-made buns and biscuits in the playground. Katy hopes the generosity of staff and students will help the organisation to continue its good work supporting children with Crohn's disease and providing helpful information for those who care for them.

Curriculum Changes

Mrs Deakin attended a staff seminar on 18th June on changes to the curriculum for 14–19 year olds where representatives from both Keele and Staffordshire universities explained how their universities were responding to the challenge of the new curriculum. This was a very interesting and useful morning on the links between Further & Higher Education.

Further Education

Also on 18th June, the Lower Sixth went to the Staffordshire Higher Education Convention held at Staffordshire University. The convention gives the students the opportunity to visit various university stands, ask questions of the staff representing the Higher Education Institutions and gather prospectuses in preparation for UCAS applications in the Upper Sixth.



Year 9 Student Newsletter

Athletics – Alexander Stadium

On Wednesday 4th June a number of students represented our school at Alexander Stadium.

Pupils who played their part:

Year 7 – Mia Shaw came 1st in the 100m sprint and got through to the final which she also won. This meant that she has earned a place in the nationals. She also took part in the hurdles. Sadly she has since broken her arm, meaning that she won't be able to take part in the Nationals. Sorry Mia!

Kate Furnival took part in the 1500m race, coming 3rd. Vicky Jenkison threw the javelin, and Lucy Evans ran the 200m and got through to the finals. Louise Chambers ran 800m, and the Year 7 relay team got through to the finals. Emma Davies also took part in shot put.

In Year 8 Steffie Walters took part in long jump and Caroline Furrey took part in the hurdles. Charlotte Reid took part in the high jump and got through to the finals in the 100m.

In Year 9 Josie Hulme took part in the 800m and Eleanor Davies took part in the 200m and discus. Niamh Murphy took part in shot put and Javelin in which she came 2nd. Steffie and Charlotte in Year 8 and Eleanor and Niamh in Year 9 took part in the Yr 8/9 relay.

In Year 10 Zoe Groom ran the 200m and participated in the high jump and Jessica Mierau took part in the shot-put and Javelin. She came 2nd.

This was a very successful sporting day, and as Josie in Year 9 said, 'It was a very exciting day, I was glad to see students out representing the school and doing well!'

Film Time!

Year 9 recommends:

The Chronicles Of Narnia:

Prince Caspian - PG

Indiana Jones - 12A

Superhero Movie - 12A

Prom Night - 15

Mama Mia - tbc

Tbc = to be confirmed.



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!

St Dominic's Priory
School

Phone: 01785 814181
E-mail: marketing@st-dominicspriory.staffs.sch.uk