



# CONTACT



## The Newsletter of St Alban's Catholic High School

July 2019  
Edition No. 8

### Words from the Head

Matt Baker

With the examinations complete, the misconception is that the end of term is a quiet time – what nonsense! The last few weeks of Presentation Evening, Transition Evening, Year 11 and Year 13 proms, and last week our activity days have kept us all busy! (Sports Day to come...)

We can look back on a very positive year, one in which we have made great strides in experiences for our young people. The new Pathways model has brought a great support and choice in option choices for the lower school, a broader choice of subjects in the upper school, we have developed the teaching of Maths with our primary schools, and strengthened our Student Voice activities to name but just a few.

The infrastructure of the school is also being improved. A much needed new set of modern toilets is being built in the A block, and we have begun the installation of solar panels on our roof. The huge windows project is ongoing and will be completed in the Autumn Term. We will also be developing classroom spaces over the summer holiday.

At the end of this term we say farewell to a number of staff: Elizabeth Alexander (Teacher of Music), Marcus Burch (Teaching Assistant), Elliot Cook (Teaching Assistant) Po Poo Lim-Edwards (Teacher of English), Claire Meadows-Smith (Teacher of Maths), Darren Peck (Teacher of Maths), Kay Thomas (Teacher of Maths), Sarah Welbourne (Head of Geography), Zoe Walsh (Cover Administrator).

We wish them all the very best wishes as they move onto a variety of exciting new opportunities.

Thank you to all of you for your support throughout the year in every way. Enjoy the holidays; every Blessing for a wonderful family break.

### EXAM RESULTS DAYS – SUMMER 2019

Please note the following dates for your diary:

**Thursday 15 August (GCE A Level)**

**Thursday 22 August (GCSE)**

Results are to be collected from the Main Hall **8.30am – 11.00am**

Staff will be on hand to provide assistance with any queries regarding results.

## Key Diary Dates

<b>Thursday 18 July</b>	Last Day of Term, students dismissed at 2.10pm
<b>Tuesday 03 September</b>	Start of Term for <b>Year 7</b> and <b>Year 12</b>
<b>Wednesday 04 September</b>	<b>All other</b> Year Groups return
<b>Wednesday 18 September</b>	School Photographs (Years 7, 9, 11 & Sixth Form)
<b>Thursday 03 October</b>	Open Evening

## Chaplaincy News

Mr S Corless, Deputy Headteacher



### Formation of our St Vincent de Paul B-Attitudes Youth Group

It is with great pleasure that St Alban's Catholic High School became an affiliated member of St Vincent de-Paul setting up our own conference earlier this year. Fr Tony Rogers celebrated Mass and our young Sixth Form volunteers were commissioned.

SVP is an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to:

- \* *tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical*
- \* *assistance to those in need – irrespective of ideology, faith, ethnicity, age or gender.*

The Society is a lay organisation initially formed in Paris in 1833 by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam and his companions, and active in England & Wales since 1844.

### What does the Society do?

- *The Society offers help to all in need, irrespective of creed, colour, race or lifestyle*
- *Befriending people in homes, hostels, hospitals and prisons*
- *Providing food and accommodation for the homeless*
- *Helping refugees*
- *Providing support and guidance for those in debt*
- *Running community shops, food banks and furniture and clothing stores*
- *Providing transport*
- *Supporting family holidays*
- *Supporting SVP members in developing countries*

Welcome all young people who want to live their faith in a practical manner by helping the poor.”

(Blessed Frederic Ozanam - the Society's founder)



The membership consists of 12 students supported by several members of staff. They have a clear remit to support the needy within the local community. As we have formed an SVP conference we have several student representatives who will lead the group during the next academic year.

Our student leaders include:

- Lilly – *President*
- Harriet and Kerri - *Vice Presidents*
- Marnie and Anh – *Group Secretaries*
- Jossy - *Group Treasurer*
- Anit – *Communications Officer*

The group will be supported by other student volunteers all committed to the same goal.



*Pope Francis*

**Pope Francis** “Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!”

As a group we will be undertaking various forms of fund raising and would appreciate your support over the next academic year. We will update you about the work we will undertake to support the extended community of St Alban's.

God Bless.

**Further information:**

<https://www.svp.org.uk/involve-young-people>



## Presentation Evening

On the 02 July we celebrated the successes of our older students at our annual Presentation Evening. Awards were presented to students in Years 11, 12 and 13 and some of our younger students also received the 'Award of St. Alban'.

We were delighted to have the deputy Mayor of Ipswich join us for the evening along with many proud parents/carers and a number of our sponsors.

Congratulations to all of our award winners.



# Changes to Fixed Penalty Notices issued for Unauthorised Absences from School

Mr Moulding, Attendance and Admissions Officer

The Local Authority (LA) issues Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to parents in cases of unauthorised absence from school. This may be for an unauthorised holiday/trip or for other attendance problems.

The cost of the penalties is £60 per parent and per child if paid within 21 days e.g. a family of two parents and two children who take a term-time unauthorised holiday can face four FPNs of £60 each.

The LA is making two important changes to how FPNs are managed:

## Repeat Offences

A small number of parents remove their children from education during the term-time for holidays and other trips, they are then issued with FPNs. They sometimes repeat this and are issued with FPNs again.

The LA now plans to issue one FPN but a subsequent offence will not result in another FPN, instead the case will go straight to prosecution in court.

This is to address those for whom repeated £60 penalties are not sufficient discouragement.

## Unpaid Fines

Parents currently have 21 days to pay an FPN at the lower rate of £60. If it is not paid after this time then the amount doubles, with one more week available to pay. If it is still unpaid then the parents are charged with an offence, leading to an appearance in court. If found guilty, as is usually the case, then this results in a heavier fine, payment of costs and a criminal record.

The LA plans to offer another step when an FPN remains unpaid: Parents will be offered the opportunity to plead guilty without a court appearance. This will result in a fixed fine and a criminal record, but it will avoid the need for a court appearance.

# Junior Maths Challenge

Mr Silk

Well done to Benjamin 7ON and Jack 8WM who achieved the highest scores on the Junior Maths Challenge last month. Both students achieved the highest Gold award and qualified for the next round of the competition which was an excellent achievement.

Also congratulations to Taylor 8AY, Nathan 8WM and Vinuga 8BR who were also awarded Gold awards.

Well done to all who took part.

# 'Green Grapevine'

Mr Deacon, Head of Year 9

The latest edition of 'Green Grapevine' is now available to access on our school website under the 'News' heading <http://anyflip.com/iqyj/hpuc/>

# Student Voice Launch

Mrs Marcus

We are very excited to launch our Student Council - Student Voice.

On the 12 June we signed in our reps for September, enjoying a breakfast together and discussing our plans for the new academic year. Each Tutor Group has two reps which represent them in a Year Voice council - they will raise any issues and needs of the Tutor Group and the Year Voice reps will follow these issues up. Two reps from the Year Voice meeting will represent the year group at our main council - Our Voice.

Meetings will take place every half term and more regularly if something comes up that needs addressing before that. We are very excited to have students playing an active role within our school community and we will keep you updated on the decisions made. These are our reps elected by their Tutor Group:

	<u>Tutor Group</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Names</u>	
Year 7	7FS	Botolph	Austin and Demetrius	OUR VOICE REPS YEAR 7: Isobel Matilda
	7PC	Magdalen	Tevin and Grace	
	7CS	Audrey	Daniel and Isobel	
	7MF	Edmund	Elliot (Augustina) and Nihaal	
	7PG	Avila	Thomas and Eimear	
	7GE	Bosco	Oliver and Mathilda	
Year 8	8HR	Botolph	Jemima and Zac	OUR VOICE REPS YEAR 8: Jemima Woodrow
	8WM	Magdalen	Elisha and Dylan / (Jake)	
	8KF	Bosco	Felicity and Will	
	8AY	Avila	Woodrow and Emilija	
	8BR	Edmund	Darion and Gabriel	
	8KE	Audrey	Chloe and Tiago	
Year 9	9PT	Magdalen	Amelia and Shayed	OUR VOICE REPS YEAR 9: Shayed Amelia
	9WS	Botolph	Laurent and Justine	
	9DU	Edmund	Leejay and Shania	
	9RS	Bosco	Isabella and Ryan	



# THE TIME IS NOW

**'The Time is Now' A climate and environment lobby of Parliament  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019. CAFOD**

Mr B Pattinson, Head of Science

As Head of Science and a member of St Alban's Catholic High School for over 30 years I felt it worth sharing with you my day in London supporting CAFOD on climate change.

I was joined by thousands of people from all over the country as far north as Glasgow and as far west as Cornwall and Wales. Although it was organised by CAFOD, it was multi-faith. Also present were groups of non-denominational organisations such as WWF, Friends of the earth, Greenpeace, RSPCA, RSPB, Scouts, Guides, National Heritage, and many others. Each geographical region had a specified place along the embankment and people from each political constituency were asked to invite their MP to come and meet them to discuss climate change and answer relevant questions.

We had invited Ipswich MP Sandy Martin (Labour), he came out and was very responsive and supportive and answered questions very well. It was a concern that other local MPs, notably Therese Coffey and Dr Dan Poulter, were absent from this peaceful protest march.

At 2pm, everyone set off alarm clocks to signify that "Time was up" and things need to change, that was very powerful.

I found the day to be inspirational in that it demonstrated the depth of feeling and cohesion across the broadest swathe of society. I decided to stay and join others lobbying on the embankment until around 5pm when crowds started to disperse. Statistics on the day indicated that around 200 MPs had engaged with their electorate and that the vast majority of those were Labour MPs.

I did expect to see and hear that there would be detailed reporting of this by the media but as it turned out to my disappointment mainstream media, BBC, Newspapers etc. virtually ignored the event with little or no coverage which was very disappointing.





Groups of campaigners rallying together to share their support for this great cause.

It was reassuring to see people from all different backgrounds and all ages come along to support the cause raised by CAFOD. As custodians of our planet we need to recognise that there needs to be action now to address the reckless destruction of our earth. Our future generations will be the ones that inherit an earth that will not provide sustained growth.

Further information about this great cause can be found at:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-lobby>

Your support and that of future generations is imperative!



# Living the Good Life

Mrs Boosey, Head of Inclusion

Earlier this year we were fortunate to be awarded some Opportunity Area funding in order to upgrade our allotment area into a fully inclusive space. Originally set up by a member of staff who sadly passed away, the area is maintained in memory of her but also as a wonderful place to learn, be part of a team and develop skills in growing produce, preparing and eating it!

Working alongside the Sixth Form team who care for the environmental area, our volunteer students engage in a variety of activities and tasks that include preservation and encouragement of wildlife, flora and fauna. We will be launching the new after-school club in September following major work over the summer. We are supported in this by Oak Tree Carbon Farm at Rushmere which is a community-based smallholding.

If you would like further details about them or the activities we are providing in school, please contact the Inclusion Team.

## Scientist of The Month

Every month one student is chosen from each Science group to be a Scientist of the Month.

These are students who have shown consistent effort, resilience and focus in all their lessons. We believe that these are the qualities which allow students to progress academically and as individuals.



### May's Scientists were:

Heba 8KE  
Oliver 9 GO  
Charlotte 11WR  
Lola 9DU  
Kitty 11GD  
Noah 11CD  
Georgia 10SK

Francesca 8HR  
Kemi 9DU  
Devin 11GR  
Grace 10TE  
Lilly 7CS  
Abhishek 7GE  
Harley 10SK

Lauren 9RS  
Charlotte 10TO  
Ryan 11GD  
Takondwa 8KF  
Eloise 11GR  
Jovilis 8KE

Martha 9WS  
Molly 10GI  
Nihaal 7MF  
Katie 10SK  
Jan 11GR  
Luke 9NC

### June's Scientists were:

Alan 7CS  
Finley 9PT  
Beth 10SK  
Daria 7ON

Elliot 7MF  
Emma-Louise 9GO  
Jana 10TE  
Bernadette 10SR

Tiago 8KE  
Kaitlyn 9NC  
Louix 10SK

Evie 8BR  
Cameron 9NC  
Kornelijus 10GI

# Brilliant Club Scholars Programme Year 9

Mrs Pickard

We would like to celebrate the success of twelve of our Year 9 students who have completed the Brilliant Club Programme this term.

The group “graduated” at St. John’s College, Cambridge earlier this month, all showing a huge amount of dedication and commitment to their tutorial sessions and to producing their 2,500 word final assignments.



The Brilliant Club aims to increase the number of students who apply for highly selective universities by allowing them to experience university life through visits and by undertaking a research project.



An introductory visit to the University of East Anglia allowed our students to explore the campus and ask questions of tutors and undergraduates. They were also introduced to Natasha Richards, a PhD tutor from the University of Essex, who supported them throughout their course. Natasha was highly inspirational, using a variety of study skills methods to deliver a fascinating course on Literary Theory. She was very complementary of the way our students approached their studies and of how they “thought outside the box” to explore their assignment questions in a variety of ways.



The course material allowed our students to access a wide variety of texts and resources and to link this to their own independent reading. Listening to them so eloquently discuss Don Quixote, Maya Angelou’s poetry and Little Red Riding Hood in relation to Horace’s Literary Theory and Racial Formation Theory, was inspiring!

Feedback from our students highlighted how much they had enjoyed the experience and that they were looking forward to exploring university as an option for their future.

Thanks go to Mr Kelman for supporting the students in their studies in school. We are planning to offer a similar programme to a group of Year 9 students in the next academic year.

## Faculty Day – Modern Foreign Languages

Mrs Jarrett

Faculty Day saw Year 7 students participate in a host of events organised by the Modern Foreign Languages department which gave everyone the chance to experience a wide range of language and multicultural opportunities. Students took part in a Chinese calligraphy workshop where they learnt how to write numbers in Chinese with brush and ink. They were also able to learn some karate moves with a championship competitor and find out about the west African language 'Yoruba'. It was a day full of activity with other workshops including: British Sign Language, Spanish and origami. A global kaleidoscope of events appreciated by all!



## Flatford and Dedham

Yagavi Robinson Kathirchelvan

On Thursday 23 May the whole of Year 7 went on a Geography Fieldtrip to Flatford and Dedham. It was a wonderful sunny day and we all had great fun collecting our important data. The scenery was incredible. We collected a variety of data for our investigation assessment. We did some pedestrian counts, litter surveys, EQA's and traffic counts to name a few.

The first stop on our trip was a visit inside the church in Dedham. We did a land use survey to note what services were evident in the village and we even went to the local Co-op to get ice cream! We then settled down in front of the church, ate our ice creams, and did a little sketch. It was an amazing opportunity to get to know my fellow class mates. The people there were kind too and welcomed us to the village. We continued collect data within the village until we left to walk over Flatford.

We set off on a hike through the Dedham vale. We passed cows and walked alongside the River Stour. We then sat down and sketched 'Willy Lotts cottage' once we were in Flatford. We were surprised to see there was no traffic or very much litter around. It really was an 'unspoilt' area. We also visited then the nature reserve in Flatford. We had a look around and I was very impressed to see how much people in Flatford care about look after and preserving nature. If only we could all be a little better at this.

Finally, we then took our journey back to Ipswich and I still can't help wondering 'why can't Ipswich be more like Flatford?'





# Key Stage 3 Art Award Workshop - Aardman Fun

Mrs A Nield

On 27 June, we had the great privilege of hosting George Watson from Aardman Animations, in the Art department for a day of challenging but fun activities.

The workshop was organised as a reward activity for a selection of Key Stage 3 students who have made a consistent effort in Art throughout the year.

George, who has worked as a Stop Motion Model Maker on Aardman productions such as *Early Man*, worked with the students, guiding them through the process of model making for animation. All the students worked extremely hard and were successful in producing either a *Shaun the Sheep*, *Gromit* or *Feathers McGraw* model to take home with them.

I think Aardman may have some budding future model makers!



Year 7 students with George Watson and their Shaun the Sheep models



Year 9 students Xabier and Linda with their Feathers



A Year 8 model of Gromit

## Year 8 Geography

Mrs Pickard

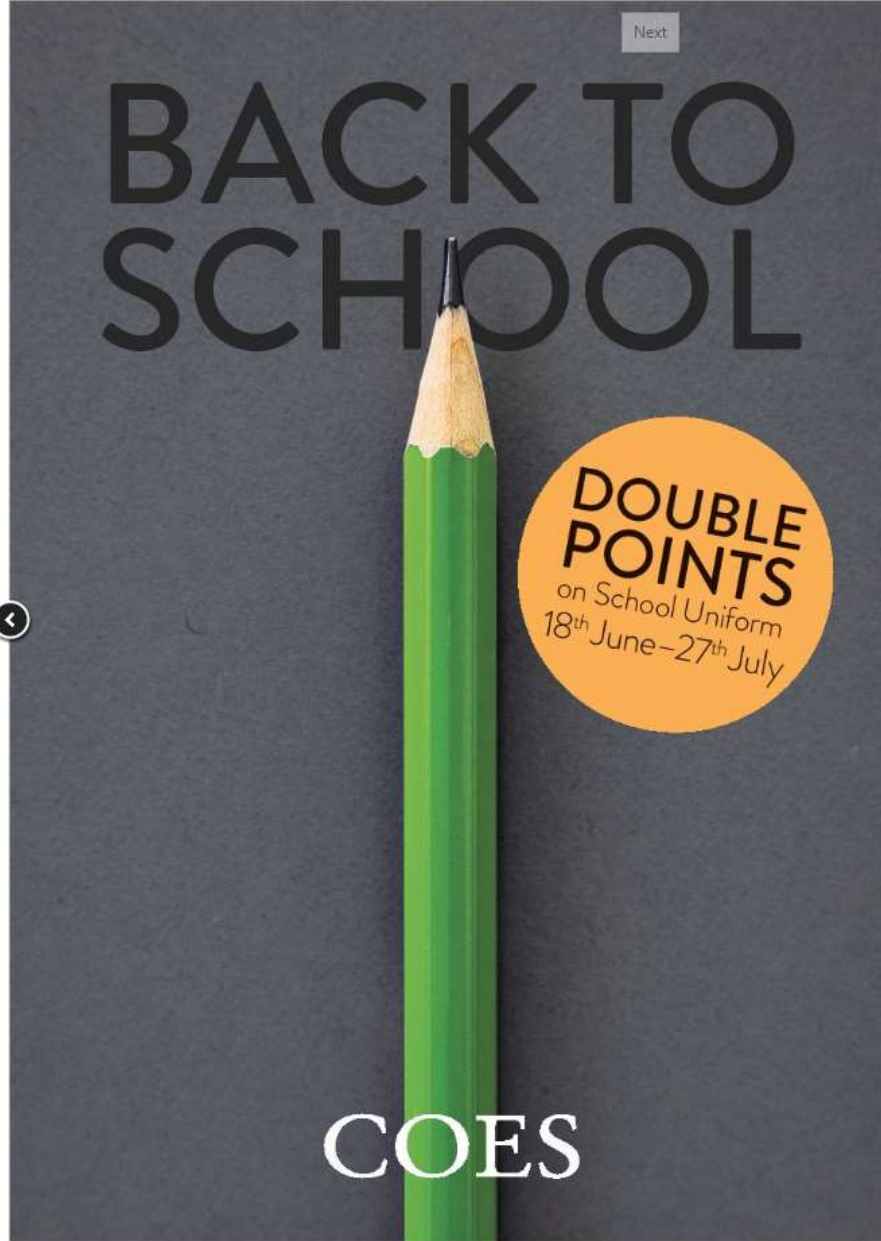
This term in Geography, Year 8 students have been looking at natural hazards, with a focus on volcanoes and earthquakes. For their final piece of homework, they were asked to be creative and make a volcano!

We have had lots of delicious volcano cakes as well as 3D cross-sectional models and posters to show how volcanoes work. Some classes have also been able to make some of the volcanoes “erupt”, using baking powder, vinegar and red food colouring!



The Geography Department have been really impressed with the imaginative use of recyclable materials for the models as well as the detailed research undertaken to produce labels and posters to support the project. Students have also shown a great deal of empathy, through class discussions, when looking at the social and economic impacts of natural disasters and how we can support those whose lives are impacted by them.





### Back to School is our busiest time.

Beat the crowds and shop early this year and we'll reward you with double points on your Wardrobe card when you buy schoolwear purchased on your loyalty card between 18<sup>th</sup> June–27<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

We will also be open between 10am and 4pm on the following days:  
Mondays 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> August; Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Terms and Conditions: Available on schoolwear only. This does not include sports and footwear. Qualifying purchases will earn 4 loyalty points per £1, instead of the usual 2 points per £1. Standard Coes loyalty terms and conditions apply. Visit [www.coes.co.uk/loyalty](http://www.coes.co.uk/loyalty) for more information.

### Schools we stock uniform for include:

Beccles School	Lexden Montessori
Cedarwood Primary	Northgate High School
Claydon High School	Oakland Hall Day Nursery
Colchester County High School for Girls	Old Buckenham Hall
Colchester High School	Orwell Park School
Colchester Royal Grammar School	Oxford House
Copleston High School	Saxmundham School
Dale Hall Primary School	St Alban's Catholic High School
East Bergholt High School	St Johns C of E Primary School
Farlingaye High School	St Joseph's College
Framlingham College	St Margarets C of E Primary School
Hadleigh High School	St Marks Primary School
Holbrook Academy	St Marys R. C. Primary School
Holmwood House Preparatory	St Pancras R. C. Primary School
Ipswich School	St Philomena's Catholic School
Kesgrave High School	Thomas Mills High School
Lawford Primary	Woodbridge School

## COES

20–28 Norwich Road, Ipswich | Free customer parking | [coes.co.uk](http://coes.co.uk)  
9am–6pm, Tues–Sat, and 10am–4pm Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, Sep 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>