



Happy New Year

Welcome back to school at the beginning of this new year. Students have been welcomed back with a timely reminder through assemblies of the importance of the Feast of Epiphany 6th January, which is one of the feasts marking the conclusion of the Christmas season.

For the High Streets and shops Christmas ended on Boxing Day with signs of sales and bargains all around.

For us as Christians the Christmas season was drawn to a close this Sunday with a reminder of the story of the Baptism of Our Lord.

Earlier in the week we celebrated the feast of Epiphany with the story of the 3 kings seeking out the infant Jesus.

The St Matthew's Gospel account of the Three Kings coming from many lands signifies that outsiders recognised the importance of the birth of Jesus. The giving of presents has endured because it symbolises the message of the gospel: thinking about others.

This thought doesn't always have to translate into a material gift – it can be shown by the gift of time, the gift of help, the gift of a meal cooked, washing up done, room tidied, the gift of a compliment, a kind word.

In school I am always heartened by the many instances of students demonstrating care for one another. I do hope that this behaviour is the hallmark of the year ahead.



Welcome to new staff and students who have joined us this year. It can be difficult to settle into a school when one joins during an academic year. However I know that all will be given the usual warm welcome

and helped to succeed and fulfil potential during their time with us in this school. New staff are as follows:

MFL:

Miss Adams
Ms Montero
Miss Walker

Creative

Arts:

Ms Berry

Learning Support Mentors:

Miss McGee
Mr Hall
Miss Pawar
Miss Sanderson



Congratulations to the Girls Football Team coached by Miss Jones. They have been selected to represent Wolverhampton Wanderers FC at the Midlands Girls Football Finals to be held in Shrewsbury on Wednesday 4 February 2009.

Congratulations also to **Corey Cooper**, 6th Form who is being awarded a special city award by the City Mayor in recognition of his Community Safety work.

Calendar Dates This Term

Tuesday 20 January 2009	Year 10 Maths Modular Exam and Year 11 re-sits - 9.00 am
Tuesday 27 January 2009	Parents Group - 6.00 pm Year 9 Progression Evening - 6.00 pm Information Evening for New Arrival students – 6.00 pm (Please note 3 meetings running concurrently)
Thursday 5 February 2009	Year 11 Parents' Evening – Reports will be sent to parents during the week before parents evening
Tuesday 10 February 2009	Year 12/13 Progress Reports
Thursday 12 and Friday 13 February 2009	Teacher Training Days – no students in school
Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February 2009	HALF TERM
Tuesday 3 March 2009	Year 8 and 9 Review Day – Post 16 lessons as normal – school closed for other students
Monday 9 March 2009	Year 11 Maths Modular Exam
Tuesday 10 March 2009	Parents Group 6.00pm
Wednesday 11 March 2009	Year 9 Empowerment Day
Thursday 26 March 2009	Year 10 Parents' Evening – Reports will be sent to parents during the week before parents evening
Friday 3 April 2009	END OF TERM – 12.30pm
Monday 20 April 2009	START OF SUMMER
TERM	



The Next Steps

At this time of the year Year 9 and Year 11 students start to consider their plans for their future learning.

Year 9

Tuesday 27th January 2009 at 6.00 pm there is a special information evening for students and families of Year 9 to discuss choices for study for the next phase of their lives. There is so much confusing information in the press and media it is important for you to attend this meeting to talk about what will be best for your daughter/son.

There are many exciting opportunities available .

There will be a formal presentation at 6.00 pm and then staff will be available for discussions relating to individual choices.

Year 11

Year 11 are on the way to secure some good Key Stage 4 results. Choices of study Post 16 need to be carefully considered. To help students a number of taster sessions have been arranged for students to sample P16 study both here and at Partnership schools.

Further details of these events will be sent to the families of Year 9 and Year 11 students and we hope that parents will support their sons and daughters by attending these meetings.

Year 11 Parents Evening – Thursday 5th February 2009.

Year 10 (and Year 11 re-sits) Maths Modular Exam – Tuesday 20 January

This is a very important examination and is the first part of the final GCSE examination. The examination begins at 9.15 a.m.

Registration as normal.