

S. Peter's Collegiate School

ISSUE 06 11/12/2020

-Parent Bulletin-

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As we enter the last week of term, we need to recognise all that has been achieved since September.

Students have returned to school following a prolonged period of time where they went through the issues presented by the virus. They have returned to a school environment that is radically different to what they were used to, in a world in which the terms bubbles, social distancing and vaccines are now more prevalent than ever before. They have managed all this brilliantly.

This week I have been amazed with our students' resilience and commitment to their studies. The way that our young people strive to build themselves a brighter future is no more impressive or evident, than when teaching some of our Year 11 students, who, despite facing uncertain landscapes in terms of examinations and assessments, have attended extra sessions in high numbers and adapted fantastically to new concepts and demands presented to them.

It has been a pleasure this week to talk to many of the Year 11 parents as we have had Parents' Evening via phone conversations. Hopefully communication in this way has been well received at home.

Behaviour in school remains excellent and the students are a credit to you. Politeness and manners are the 'norm' and the staff are very grateful. During the last week of term, it is tradition that students attend St. Peter's Church on the last day of term. Sadly, this year we cannot do this.

We will be holding a virtual service to celebrate Christmas for students during the morning of Thursday 17 December and school will finish at 14:45 for Year 7, 8 & 9 students and at 15:00 for Year 10-13 students as normal. We really can't wait to be able to revert back to traditional services in the near future, but for now the priority has to remain everyone's safety.

We hope all students will enjoy the virtual service held in the morning and following this, during the afternoon, we are very fortunate to be involved in a Girls' Empowerment Day where many of our Year 10 girls will have the chance to work (virtually) with Fiona Shaw, CBE, BAFTA and Olivier award winning actress, Denise Lewis OBE and a British sports presenter and former track and field, gold medal winning heptathlon athlete, Honour judge, Carole Burgher, along with Ayo Awotona, an International speaker, inspirational author and educator. I am personally really looking forward to seeing how our girls respond to these fabulous role models and I hope that they come home and share this experience with you.

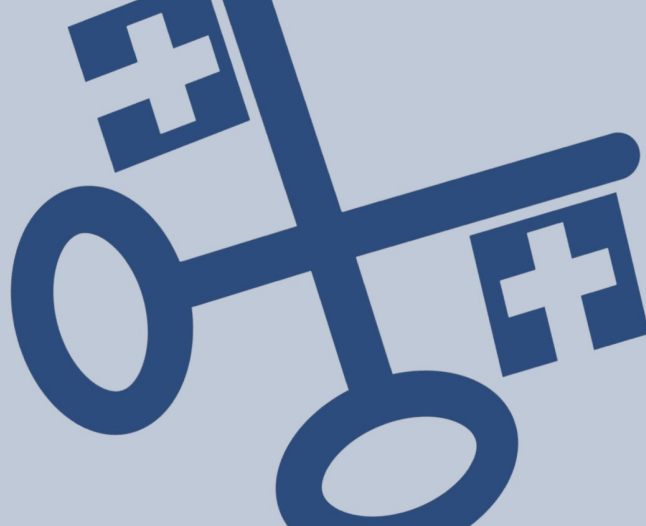
It has been lovely to be in receipt of so many positive comments lately regarding communication, (especially about the bulletin). We do also try to listen to your comments. Hopefully in future weeks you will perhaps see features that include articles from our Head Girl's and Head Boy's, and an introduction to our school Governors.

Just a reminder that following the announcement this week that schools should look to have an additional PD Day prior to the Christmas break this year, we will be closed to all students on Friday 18 December.

Have a good weekend and I look forward to the last week of term.

REMINDER:

- Christmas Jumper Day is 11th December 2020—School Uniform Must be worn
- Friday 18th December School Closed to pupils
- The Frog Blog is available for all to read [here](#)



GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT

Next week we see the launch of a brand new initiative Girls' Empowerment. The project supported by the Diocese of Lichfield will see a group of thirty Year 10 girls take part in an event hosted at S. Peter's Collegiate School. The project is aiming to expand the aspirations of the students that take part, developing a drive and igniting a fire, a passion to want to be heard and recognised. It is hoped the project will create opportunities to challenge attitudes, beliefs

Launch event

Guest speaker
Fiona Shaw CBE
BAFTA & Olivier
Award winning actress & director
from Killing Eve, Harry Potter and
the Royal Shakespeare Company

GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT PROJECT 2020

December 17th 1.00 - 3.00pm

This girl can.

Supported by:
Her Honour Judge Carole Burgher
Denise Lewis OBE
Ayo Awotona

DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD

Inspiring. Igniting. Inspiring.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Mrs Leek

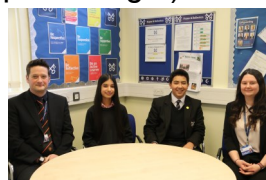
This week the 6th form football team travelled away to Thomas Telford, the game being very hard fought with fine margins deciding the result 1-0 to Thomas Telford. Team captain Oscar Searle said "I couldn't be prouder of the performance."

On Thursday 10th we welcomed elevate into school. Elevate Education deliver study skills programmes that deliver results. Elevate aim to create bespoke study skills programmes designed to achieve behavioural change amongst students.

MORE STUDENT LEADERS

This week we have welcome our Head Boy and Head Girl for Year's 8 and 10.

Congratulations to Callum Chin-see and Priya Johal (Year 10—pictured left), George Spooner and Brooke Gamble (Year 8 - picture right).



SINGING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Hannah Spedding-Stowe in Year 10 for receiving a merit in her recent Grade 5 Singing exam and to Anya Bradshaw for a merit in her Grade 8 harp!

CONTACTS

Head of Year 7 - jpeacock@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 8 - dsherriff@speters.org.uk

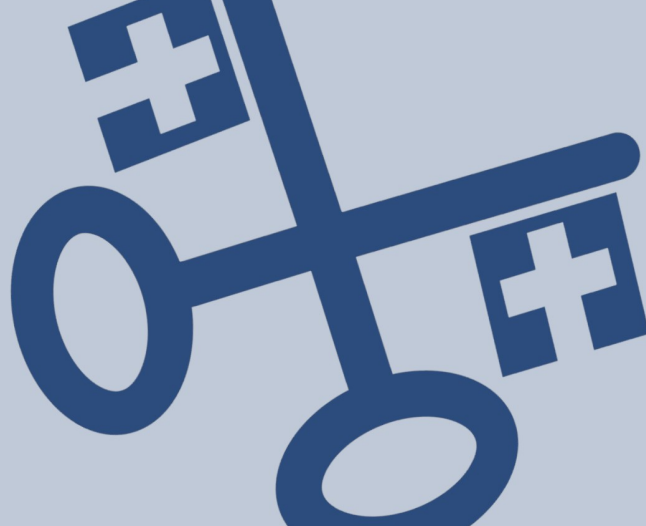
Head of Year 9 - ajohnson@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 10 - dmaullin@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 11 - gsmith@speters.org.uk

Post 16 - 6thform@speters.org.uk

For general enquiries speters@speters.org.uk



SPOTLIGHT ON HISTORY — Mr. Morgan

This term has been a busy one for the History department. As part of the school's Enrichment programme, the History department have been delivering a wide range of interesting sessions.

Mr Morgan and Mr Potts have delivered revision and intervention sessions for Year 11, originally on the Germany exam unit and more recently the King Richard and King John unit.

Miss Hammerton has been bringing Horrible Histories to S. Peter's with sessions for Years 7 and 8; topics including the Vikings and the Romans.

Miss Edwards has delivered an online form of revision for Year 10 and Year 11 students via weekly Google Classroom quizzes and has been working with the Sixth Form in her alternative role as Deputy head of Sixth Form.

Finally, Mr Sherriff has been unleashing the artistic talents of Years 7 and 8 with a Lego club along with supporting our students outside the History classroom as Head of Year 8.

One of the major events that we focus on in History happened this term, Remembrance Day. Miss Hammerton produced a poignant lesson undertaken by all classes across the school before the two minute silence that highlighted the values of the day with a focus on service and sacrifice; detailing the history and bringing it right up to date.



▲ Bergen-Belsen concentration camp

Last academic year saw S. Peter's students among the last pre Lockdown to visit Bergen-Belsen and Auschwitz death camps in visits organised by the Holocaust Education Trust. The department is developing ideas for the whole school to remember Holocaust Memorial Day in 2020 - watch this space.

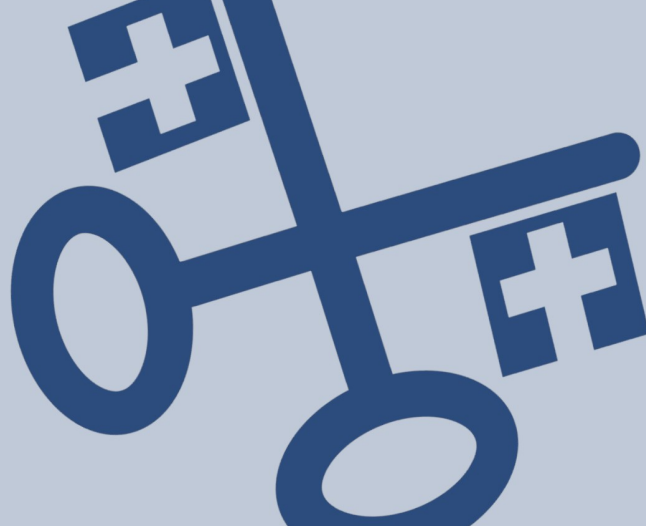
Over the last two years, History for Years 7-11 has changed beyond all recognition due to a new and improved curriculum designed by Miss Edwards. There are further developments on their way bringing History home with Mr Potts' new initiative called "Making History"; again, watch this space!

YEAR 7

Year 7 have explored England from the Romans to 1066 and are currently learning about the massively important year, 1066 - a year of big changes that impacted everyone in the country, a bit like 2020. After Christmas, the Black Death and Peasants Revolt will be explored, interesting topics for the times we live in.

REMINDERS:

- Have you signed up for our Parent app yet?
Email speters@speters.org.uk
- Sixth Form 2021 application process is now open [click here](#)



YEAR 8

Year 8 started with a thematic study of Terrorism Over Time. A wide ranging investigation taking in the Gunpowder Plot, 9/11, Suffragettes, the IRA and the KKK focusing on events in Tulsa in 1921. The end result was a study of modern day extremism, providing much food for thought. They have since moved on to study the emotive topic of the Transatlantic Slave Trade. After Christmas, the British Empire comes under the microscope.

The Gunpowder plot ▼



YEAR 10

Year 10 returned this year to finish the Crime & Punishment through Time course that they began before Lockdown last year. The types of crime, the punishments and the policing of crime from 1000 to now have been studied, analysed and compared. We are now moving on to studying our next topic, Henry VIII and his ministers. The students (and teachers!) are very excited to start studying this new unit!

YEAR 9

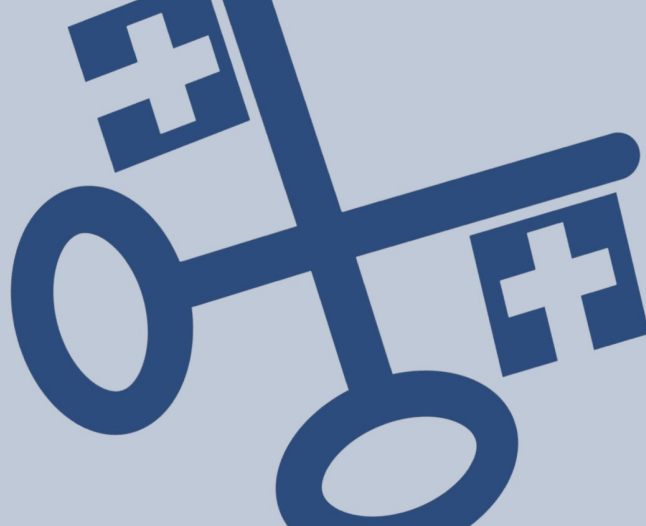
Year 9 began their GCSE career in History with a unit created by Miss Hammerton, working closely with the Holocaust Education Trust. A unit that went deeper into the Holocaust and anti-Semitism before and after the event, including examples during Lockdown. The study was also widened to include other genocides. A disturbing but very worthwhile project. This half term has begun a study of Germany from 1918 to 1939, the years that led to the rise of Hitler and his policies that led to the Holocaust. A popular course across the country.

YEAR 11

Year 11 have finished off the Germany 1918 - 1939 course they were studying as Lockdown began. After a Germany mock exam, we have begun studying the Cold War, the final unit for the Summer exams. Starting in 1943 and studying through to the fall of the USSR in 1991. To people as old as Mr Morgan, the course is filled with events from living memory but it's so interesting as we study many of the events that shaped the world we live in today. The division of Berlin and Germany leading to the Berlin Wall, the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 (I don't remember that though!), the invasion of Afghanistan, Olympic boycotts and Arms Races. An era that is immortalised in movies like "Bridge of Spies", "13 Days" and "The Living Daylights" as well as the books of Le Carre and Anna Funder.

REMINDERS:

- Weekly uniform checks take place in school, please make sure your child is wearing the appropriate uniform at all times
- Our Enhancement and Enrichment programme is now running again



TUDOR STUDIES FOR YEAR 12



Year 12 have begun their studies of the Tudors, beginning with Henry VII, and International Relations, beginning with the causes of World War I. The students are working hard and engaging well with their studies - a fantastic start to the beginning of their History A-Level!

YEAR 13 LOCKDOWN DEDICATION

Year 13 have nearly finished their studies of the Tudors and the causes of World War II. We have started Elizabeth I, another era of massive importance. The Year 13s worked hard throughout Lockdown, showing their dedication to their studies.

Throughout all of the topics we cover we share resources from YouTube videos to websites with the students. We will also recommend students engaging in a wide variety of reading and watching. If you like the sound of the work being studied and want to find out more, please explore the links being shared with students via the Google Classrooms. If you would like to know more, please get in touch (nmorgan@speters.org.uk).

Recommended watching: For Cold War studies, we highly recommend "Bridge of Spies".

Recommended reading: For Cold War studies, we also highly recommend "Stasiland" - a study of the East German Secret police between 1945 to 1989. Focusing on individual stories and experiences, the reading is heart wrenching, but very interesting.

HISTORY ALUMNI— Maiya Grant

Finally, many of the Historians we have taught like to stay in touch and let us know where History has taken them.

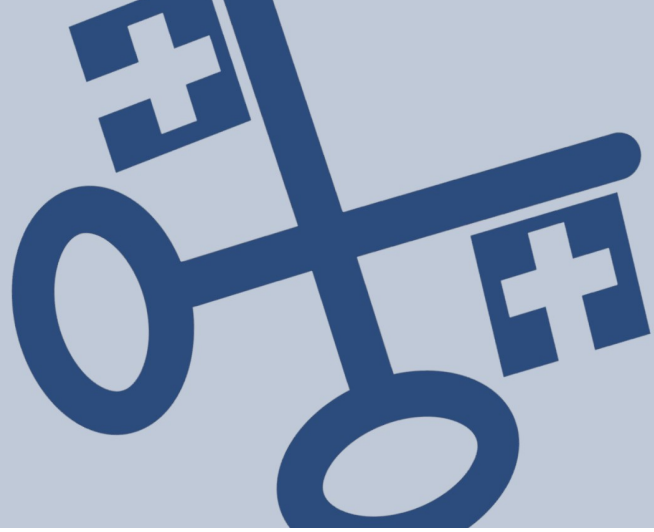
"Due to the amazing encouragement and teaching of Mr Morgan and Mr Sherriff I was able to attend my first choice university. I can honestly say that I would not be here today without the History Department's continual guidance during both my GCSE and A-Level History exams. The support I received from them both was truly amazing and their door was always open (even if it was their only free period that day) to help their students.

I spent last year studying abroad in Japan and now in my final year completing my BA in History, Philosophy and Creative Writing at the University of Hertfordshire. I look forward to completing my MA in Media Publishing next year. I can't thank or praise the History Department at S. Peter's enough, they are truly amazing educators.

Both GCSE & A-Level history at S. Peter's acted as the bedrock for understanding my modules at university and further enriched my educational experience at Hertfordshire."

PRAYER

Lord God, we thank you for giving us the ability to experience joy in this world. We thank you for family and friends, for celebrations and traditions that give us joy. In this week of advent, may we find moments to reflect on how Jesus' arrival on this earth brought joy to those around him even in the troubles of life. Born in humble surroundings, he gave everything for us, that we might know the joy of being in relationship with you as it is meant to be. Thank you that when we genuinely make room for you and come into your presence, we find joy. Amen



FAITH MATTERS

Joy to the World....No Sprouts!

Getting a family of five into a car with only five seats, to go and collect a six foot tree from a farm a few miles away, sounds like a really difficult challenge. However, as one of our family Christmas traditions, this was an absolute JOY for many years. After 'running around the Christmas trees' we selected 'THE ONE' and all jumped back in the car; then with the tree sticking out of the sun roof, windows wound down, CD player at max, we would sing Christmas songs all the way back home! With our children now grown up and no longer living at home, our new tradition is simply to bring out the picture you see opposite to remind us of those joyful times. (We might still put on a CD too.)

Joy is a feeling we all know is real, even if we can't quite understand how it works. We have all experienced JOY and know it when we see it in other's actions - squealing with delight, laughing out loud, jumping up and down or waving arms wildly in the air. JOY is nice. JOY is fun. JOY is feeling good, even in difficult moments. Where does JOY come from? Is it just for the Christmas season or is there more to think about?

"What brings you JOY at Christmas? I have been out and about round school this week asking this question. Some people mentioned family, food, presents or snowy weather. Others thought of decorations, ice-cream, singing carols or not eating sprouts. Some find JOY at Christmas in helping others in need or even going for a run on Christmas Day! All genuine moments of JOY to be thankful for. In the Gospel accounts of Jesus' arrival onto this earth there were plenty of references to JOY coming into the World. There was something

[READ MORE HERE](#)



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