

Parent Bulletin

ISSUE 48 14/01/2022

'In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



I have been glad to hear some very positive comments about last week's Sixth Form virtual parents evening. It's always good to touch base with parents to keep them up to date with how students are progressing. If you did experience any issues, please get in contact with us as we are all still relatively new to the Virtual Parents consultations and will always look to make improvements. We hope that the virtual year 9 Parents Evening next Thursday is as well received.

Walking round the school this week, I have purposely gone into lessons at the start in order to capture the atmosphere and a flavour of the 'Do Now' starter activities that are taking place in all lessons across the school. Sometimes this will involve building on prior learning experiences, sometimes this will involve a mini test or a piece of reading or research, but it's always good to see all students entering the classroom and eagerly checking what to get started with. Please ask your child what their favourite 'Do Now' activity has been this week.

I have also noticed (and do every year), that lots of students have had new phones for Christmas. Whilst it is nice to see them proud of their gifts, I need to remind everyone that phones are not to be turned on or used in school. They are to be placed in bags and kept away until the end of the day. There are times and our school is no different that phones can be used for negative reasons and things like group chats can have inciting and inflammatory posts on them when students do not think about the content that they are posting. In addition to asking for your support to ensure that phones are used correctly in school, I would encourage all parents/carers to check their children's phone content regularly and question anything that is inappropriate. The following is the recommended age for well-known social media sites are:

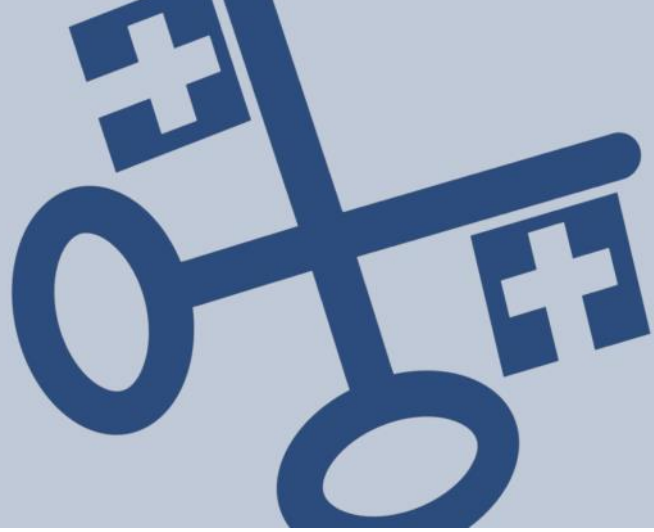
Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat & Instagram all 13 years

WhatsApp 16 years

And finally some more excellent Basketball results again this week. We are so proud of the work that is being done on the Basketball courts with so many students, girls and boys. A plea: if there is anyone out there who would be willing to sponsor some of the teams it would be so gladly received. We intend to develop the programme and break through at National level in the next few years and would be really proud to look fantastic whilst doing so!

SPRING TERM DATES 2022

- **Term Time:** Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 18 February 2022
- **Half Term:** Monday 21 February 2022- Friday 25 February 2022
- **Term Time:** Monday 28 February 2022 – Friday 8 April 2022
- **Inset Days:** Wednesday 2 March 2022 (half day following Ash Wednesday Eucharist) | Friday 8 April 2022

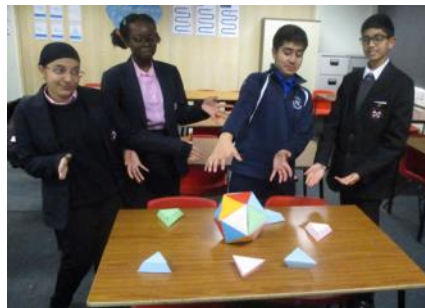


KEY DATES

- 19/01/22 - Year 8 National Enterprise
- 20/01/22 - Y9 Parents' Evening
- 24/01/22 - Y10 Assessment week
- 26/01/22 - Y8 National Enterprise Day
- 31/01/22 - Y13 Mocks Exams Week
- 31/01/2022 - Subject Discovery Week
- 2/02/2022 - Maths Challenge
- 7/02/2022 - National Apprenticeship Week
- 9/0/2/2022 - Safer Internet Day
- 9/02/2022 - Y13 review 2 Issued
- 14/02/2022 - Y9 Assessment Week

MATHS CHALLENGE

At Maths Challenge Club, students in years 7 to 10 are offered the opportunity to attempt challenging maths problems that they wouldn't usually get to see during lessons with a view to competing in the UKMT junior and intermediate maths challenges. Not only do we encourage students to develop their problem solving skills, we also hope that in working collaboratively to solve mathematical puzzles that they have fun and make friends! We have now opened the club up as a drop in for any students seeking support with their classwork and homework so whether you are terrified of algebra or an aspiring mathematician, please feel free to join Miss Warburton and Mr Gilhooly in Room B39 every Wednesday between 3pm and 4pm!



Above: During discovery week last term, students put their origami skills to the test by making paper truncated tetrahedrons. Using their superior skill (and some sellotape!), they were then able to put them together to make an icosahedron – a platonic solid consisting of 20 faces, 30 edges and 12 vertices!

ELEVATE WEBINAR

Elevate education will be delivering a parent event on Tuesday 18th January, the virtual event will continue the Exam preparation series with specific Exam Skills covered in this session.

The session will cover what students should be doing in the lead up to exams, how to establish a good routine and ways to optimise exam performance.

[Register Here](#)

CONTACTS

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

Head of Year 8 – gsmith@speters.org.uk

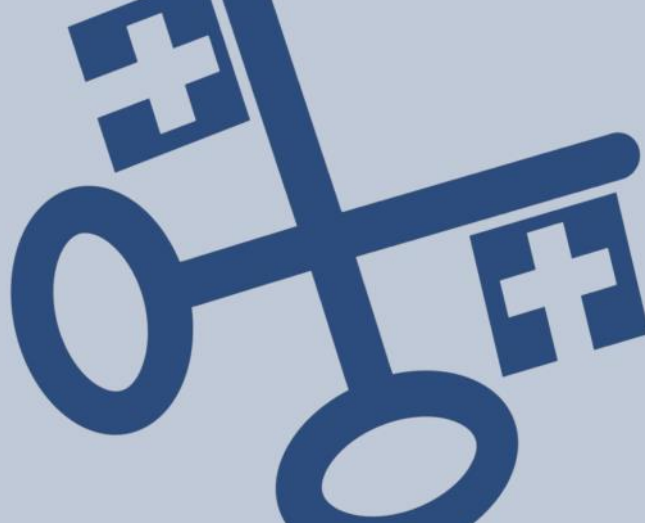
Head of Year 9 – elord@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 10 – ajohnson@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 11 – dmaullin@speters.org.uk

Post 16 – 6thform@speters.org.uk

For general enquiries speters@speters.org.uk



L'ÉPIPHANIE



To celebrate the 6th January, some of our MFL students have been baking 'Une Galette des Rois' (a King cake/pie). We have seen some fantastic baking examples and they tasted lovely!

Try and make your very own Galette des Rois by following this [video tutorial](#).

PHASED RETURN UPDATE

The phased return to school in January worked fantastically well. It allowed us to test each student before they entered a classroom, we want to extend our thanks to parents and carers in supporting the phased return. We are asking students in wearing masks in public spaces and when moving around school and thank you in your support with this.

PARKING ON COMPTON PARK

Can parents and carers not use the spine road to park before and after school. This makes it incredibly difficult for deliveries and emergency vehicles to gain access to the school site. We ask if you drop off in a morning that you do so at the turning circle before the visitors car park.

Thank you

SPORTS UPDATE

The Year 9 Football team beat OLSC 3-1 in a tough fixture against very good opposition this week.

Our Year 10 Basketball team suffered a last minute defeat to St Edmunds this week in a very well fought match. The Year 11 and 6th Form basketball teams won 42-27 against Kings, with a great all round team performance ; special shout out to Ethan Patel who showcased some King James skills in the last quarter to seal the victory!

Our Basketball academy is a fantastic opportunity for both boys and girls in all year groups to not only excel in sporting excellence but also to establish relationships through sport.

We are looking for sponsors to help fund a new kit for the team. If anyone is interested in this please email speters@speters.org.uk with your details.