

**Principal's Newsletter
Issue 8 - May 2018**

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the May Principal's newsletter for parents and carers. It has been a very busy couple of months at the Academy.

Examination Season

This is now fully underway with students especially in Years 11 and 13 undertaking their exams. Their attitude towards their studies and the fantastic manner in which students are approaching their examinations is wonderful to see and I would like to wish them all the best of luck for the remainder of their exams. Thank you to the staff who have been putting on extra support and revision sessions during early mornings, after school, at weekends and through the holidays and of course, to all at home for the support, testing and cups of tea you will be providing behind the scenes! I am sure all this effort and diligence will pay off in the summer.

Ofsted

The academy was visited by a team of three Ofsted inspectors on 9th May. The letter from the lead inspector was made available on our website yesterday and can be found by following this link:

<https://www.samworthchurchacademy.co.uk/information/ofsted-report>.

I am pleased to restate that we remain categorised by Ofsted as a 'Good' school. The team were impressed with our students and with many areas of our work at the academy and also left us with some clear priorities to work on which we were aware of well in advance of the inspection. May I take this opportunity to thank the entire academy community for everything they do to support the academy the whole year round.

The Southwell and Nottingham Multi-Academy Trust

Some of you may recall our sponsors writing to you last year about our plans to search for a suitable Multi-Academy Trust for The Samworth Church Academy to join. Since the announcement, the academy has been working in the background with the Department for Education to pursue joining The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham's own Trust (SNMAT). One of the key reasons for us choosing to join the Southwell and Nottinghamshire MAT is that the ethos of their trust closely matches ours. We believe that by working with the other schools in the SNMAT the academy will be able to continue to grow and improve the quality of education we provide as well as make a distinctive contribution to school improvement both within the MAT and beyond. You will soon be receiving a letter which will provide some further detail and an invite for parents and carers to find out more or ask questions at a drop-in session to be held at the academy on **Tuesday 26th June 2018** between **5.00 - 7.00pm**. The letter can be found here on our website https://www.samworthchurchacademy.co.uk/files/Letters/MAT_Letter_June_2018.pdf.

Dance showcase

Last month our annual dance showcase (this year entitled 'Pan' and loosely based on the story and characters of Peter Pan) took place. The performances were mind-blowing and extremely professional and truly reflected the hours of dedication and work that students and staff put in to preparing for the event. It always is a top quality event with this year being the best one yet, well done to all involved and thank you to all who supported.

GDPR

On the 25th May the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force. The GDPR has replaced the Data Protection Act 1998 and is designed to strengthen the safety and security of all data held within an organisation, and make sure processing and storage procedures are consistent. Further information will be sent to you over the coming weeks to inform you of the work that the academy is conducting to ensure that we meet this new regulation. In the meantime, we have already shared our updated privacy notice with you and we would encourage you to read this important information. You can find the notice on our website at <https://www.samworthchurchacademy.co.uk/information/privacy-notice>.

Attendance

Punctuality to school means a great start to the day for each student. Those that arrive on time have the opportunity to have a free light breakfast, meet friends and go to their first lesson together where they are registered so we know they are safe in our care and ready to learn. We can proudly say that the vast majority of our students are here on time but this is not the case for 100% of students. Students may set off from home with plenty of time to spare but waiting for friends, calling at the shop and general 'dilly-dallying' can cause them to lose track of time and arrive at school late for their lesson. Please can we ask for your support in encouraging your child to arrive in school before 8:20am so they are ready to commence learning at 8:25am.

Key dates this half term

Tuesday 12 th June	Year 6 Information Evening
25 th – 29 th June	Year 7 Residential
Tuesday 26 th June, 5 – 7pm	MAT drop in session
Thursday 28 th June	Year 11 Prom
Tuesday 3 rd July	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 5 th July	Sports Day
Friday 6 th July	Year 8 Graduation
9 th – 11 th July	Year 6 Induction Days
Tuesday 10 th July	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 18 th July	Reports available via ParentPortal

Please refer to our calendar on the website for further dates.

And finally...

Thought for the month – from Alex our Chaplain

Over this last academic year in the academy we have had a real focus on our five Christian values - Forgiveness, Service, Respect, Positivity and Vocation, taking each value as our theme for each half term. This has allowed us to explore each one to gain a deeper understanding of what it means, not just in knowing the values but living them out in daily life.

Our actions are a great indicator of our beliefs and our values, especially when we are put under a little bit of pressure. Whatever has been soaked into a sponge will come out again when being squeezed, what is it that we invest and put into our own lives that people will see and experience when we are squeezed? Let's make sure that we take some time to invest in ourselves physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally so that we can be prepared for whatever life has for us.

Yours faithfully



Lisa McVeigh
Principal