



# Christmas Bulletin

December 2016

## Headmaster's Message

There is no doubt that this has been a long term, but what a fantastic term it has been! As you read through this bulletin, you will get a sense of some of the things that have been going on in school. You won't see (and there is no measure of) the impact it has had on our children.

At the start of the school year I always ask students to get involved and to embrace the opportunities available to them. I firmly believe that those who get involved get the most out of their time at our school. It is the small things I usually remember and which inspire me – a cheerful 'Good morning', a shy smile of appreciation, shared laughter with friends, an act of unsolicited kindness to another in a moment of stress, anxiety or difficulty. These are the things that make me really proud.

The last stanza of 'In the Bleak Midwinter' asks 'What can I give Him, poor as I am?' and concludes '.....what I can I give Him: give my heart'. I can't help but be moved by these words because they echo so closely what I witness in our school each day. People, students and staff, giving what they can with all their heart – often, without knowing how much they give and how much it matters.

With my sincere thanks for all your support this year and wishing you all a very happy, peaceful and Holy Christmas.

**Sean Maher**

## KEY DATES

<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	Autumn term ends (students dismissed at 12.40pm)
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Return to school
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Awards Evening
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Hungary Trip – Parents' Evening
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	PTA Meeting
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Year 10 Parents' Evening
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	House Drama Competition
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Year 12 Parents' Evening
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Year 7S Parents' Evening
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	Year 7N Parents' Evening
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	School Production
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Swimming Gala
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Battlefields Trip – Parents' Meeting
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Half Term
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Return to school
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	'Practical Ideas for a Happier Living' – course begins
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Year 8 South Parents' Evening
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Iceland Trip Information Evening
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 8 North Parents' Evening
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Ski Trip Parents' Evening
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	PTA Fashion Show
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	House Music Competition
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 9 North Parents' Evening
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Spring term ends at 12.40pm for Easter break
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Return to school



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## **LAUNCH OF ALUMNI AND FRIENDS**

This month saw the very exciting launch of our new *Alumni and Friends* Group, which we believe will be an excellent opportunity to bring past students, ex parents and former staff back into our Challoner community. We also hope this will provide networking and social opportunities that will be of benefit to the school, as well as rewarding for those who want to stay involved through presentations, work experience or helping with potential fundraising ventures.

We invited our *Alumni and Friends* to a Carol Concert on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm, followed by a Canapés Reception, which was a very enjoyable and fitting way to mark the beginning of this special venture.

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## **Food and Nutrition Department**

After successful smoothie recipe trials with Year 7, the Food and Nutrition Department has set up a Smoothie Breakfast Bar in the canteen on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Smoothies are sold at a bargain price of 50p - flavours include mixed berry and exotic fruits. We will be asking the students for flavour combinations in the coming weeks.

The Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students completed their International Cuisine practical exam, where they had to create a two course meal with a variety of accompaniments/sides. The students produced some amazing and exotic dishes, all to an extremely high standard.

Look out for the Canapé Reception for the Drama production on 1<sup>st</sup> February. We have already started planning some gastronomic treats.

The Saint Francis Xavier students made a variety of flavoured cupcakes and sold them to staff to raise money for McMillan Cancer Research.

Year 10 students prepared and served afternoon tea for the Arthritis Care group on 7<sup>th</sup> December, which included a range of home-made open sandwiches, sausage rolls, chocolate brownies, crumble, meringue and pastry topped mince pies.

House Masterchef Competition was launched mid December. Students were asked to submit a creative and original recipe. The Food Department and Head of House will decide upon one student per House, per Key Stage. Each House will then need to compete against each other in a cook off competition on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

Year 10 Food and Nutrition and Year 10 and 11 Food Skills have made, iced and decorated Christmas cakes using 53 jars of mincemeat, 12 kilos of soaked fruit and 13.5 kg of flour. Thank you to our Technician, Mrs Duddy, for her hard work with all the shopping.

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## English

Excellent success at both Senior and Intermediate stages in the Rotary Youth Speaks competition. Our Senior Team, with Fintan Quinn, Marc French and Matthew Fuller, took first place and won the individual prizes for best Chairperson, Speaker and Vote of Thanks. The judges thought they were a “master class” in how it should be done! They will now speak again at the next stage of this National Competition in January. At the Intermediate level we had a team from KS3 with Malachy Walker, Henry Butlin and Josh Lampton. The boys took second place and Malachy and Josh were awarded runner up for the best Speaker and Vote of Thanks. Both teams worked very hard in the weeks before the exam and the English Department is very proud of their performance!

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## Design Technology

### **Design Technology Engineering Day – November 2016**

Year 7 students undertook a number of challenges that will develop their problem solving/ resilience skills, enable them to gain experience at what the job of a “real designer/engineer” is like and learn some core DT syllabus. All students seemed to have a fun time and hopefully some buddy engineers have been inspired for their future careers!

### **Product Design: Christmas Enterprise 2016 – LED Candle Decorations**

Year 10 GCSE Product Design classes, as part of their “Batch Production Unit”, sold Christmas themed candle decorations at the Winter Concert, in school at lunch times and at the St Matthias Christmas Concert. All students, both in class and in their own time, acted as a company, manufacturing and implementing quality control checks to produce high quality products. They have made over £500 (so far), with at least 10% going to charity. Excellent work!



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## **Maths**

The following Year 13 students have been awarded Gold Certificates in the Senior Maths Challenge and their scores were so high that they were selected for the next round of the competition - an incredible achievement for them:

**Soo Ji**  
**Edward Plumb**

The following students were awarded Silver in the Senior Maths Challenge:

### Year 13

**Sam Helm**  
**Tom Voysey**  
**Ryan Firmin**  
**Ryan Martin**

### Year 12

**Joseph Strang**  
**Georgia Baum**  
**Callum Marriott**  
**Daniel Tomkins**  
**Raphael Santiago**

Bronze awards went to the following students:

**Oliver Ennis**  
**Justin Le**  
**Michael Brown**  
**Cillian Creedon**  
**Joseph O'Neill-Egan**  
**Robert Spelman**  
**Sophie Tran**  
**Michael Betts**  
**Jack Higgins**  
**Seungjoo Jeon**  
**Minsoo Kim**  
**Sinead Conway-Belcher**  
**Claire Oliver**  
**Isabella Pederzoli**  
**Joshua Mann**  
**David Sanches**  
**Patrick Hayes**  
**Ryan Mawji**  
**Neli Kerinska**  
**Tashlyn Pereira**  
**Luna Miller**  
**Joseph Graham**

All awards at this level are extremely pleasing as the level of difficulty of maths is immense.

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## SIXTH FORM

Sophie Tran's double SATRO award win for her summer work placement. Sophie already has three offers from top universities to study Computer Science.



## High Fliers

Congratulations to the five Challoner students who have been called for interview at Oxford and Cambridge. Matthew Heery, Ed Plumb and Soo Ji have applied to read Mathematics at Oxford. Justin Le has an interview at Oxford to read Chemistry, while Ollie Costello has an interview at Cambridge to read Human, Social and Political Sciences. We wish them all the very best of luck!

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## Year 9 Christmas Fair

Our Year 9 students spent most of the half term preparing their stalls to run at the Christmas Fair, which took place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The Fair was a great success and staff were impressed with the imaginative and well-organised stalls run by the Year 9 students. In total, £1193.02 was raised for our school charity, Aid To The Church In Need. Congratulations to all of Year 9 and thank you to all the friends and family that supported the event through generous contributions. We could not have done it without you!

*Miss Veglio*

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## Drama

November saw our first production of the year, where students from our AS and A Level classes performed Arthur Miller's classic, 'A View from the Bridge'. The students performed for three nights and had been in rehearsal since July the previous year. The hard work paid off and the show was a great success.

As one term finishes, we turn our eyes towards next term and start to prepare for our second production of 'Will', directed by Mr Zoaldkiewicz and three practical examinations for our GCSE and A Level students. In addition to this, we will be travelling to Budapest again this half-term to perform our plays and hold workshops in a local secondary school.

The end of this term will see Miss Durdle leave us to continue with her PGCE studies. I would like to thank Miss Durdle, on behalf of the department and her students, for all she has done in her time with us and we all wish her every success in her teaching career.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this year and wish you a very happy, restful Christmas. See you in 2017!

*Mr L Norton - Director of Drama*

Our next Drama production is an Elizabethan Extravaganza! Students from Year 11 and the Sixth Form will appear in a new play, 'WILL – SHAKESPEARE AND JULIET', by Mr Zoladkiewicz. It is a comedy drama about the first ever performance of 'Romeo and Juliet'. The Drama Studio is being transformed into a working Elizabethan theatre for the show! Performances are on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Tickets are on sale from January 9<sup>th</sup>.

*Mr Zoladkiewicz*

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## Art & Design

It has been a very busy term for the Art and Design Department. We have had trips to Tate Modern and the National Gallery, as well as after school workshops and CCW in school to help the A Level students prepare for their foundation applications. We also produced a number of limited edition prints to sell at the brilliant 'View from the Bridge' production, which was a great success. However, the highlight, without doubt, was our 'Big Draw' event, which saw many pupils get involved in creative activities around the school. The main House event was a huge success and showed off the creative talent we have at Challoner. A very busy and very successful first term!

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## House Scores

After a flurry of House Rugby events and the Year 11 Tug-of-War (which was won by 11M – who are now unbeaten in 25 House Tug-of-War games), the current House Scores are as follows:

House	Points	Position
Augustine	415	1
Becket	349	2
Dunstan	330	3
Fisher	317	4
More	292	5
Columba	267	6

There are quite a number of Tug-of-War and Rugby events coming up soon – followed by House Master-Chef and House Drama in January; it's all to play for!



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## Sports Results Winter 2016

### Rugby (54 matches)

Year Group	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points For	Points Against
7A	10	10	0	0	370	0
7B	7	6	0	1	250	80
8	9	6	0	3	300	183
9	8	3	0	5	225	204
10	8	4	0	4	133	232
11	7	3	0	4	80	155
6 <sup>th</sup> Form	6	4	0	2	184	106

Year 7 A team completed a clean sweep of wins this term without conceding a try.

Year 10 and Sixth Form teams had good wins in the early stages of the National Cup.

### Football (33 matches)

Year Group	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
7	6	5	0	1	26	5
8	3	2	0	1	14	7
9	5	4	0	1	25	5
10	6	5	0	1	41	19
11	1	0	0	1	0	1
6 <sup>th</sup> Form A	8	7	0	1	23	10
6 <sup>th</sup> Form B	3	2	1	0	11	5

All our school teams are still in the Surrey Schools' Competitions after Christmas; several teams had good runs into the latter stages of the National Cup, reaching 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Rounds.

### Basketball (17 games)

Year Group	Played	Won	Lost	Points For	Points Against
7	2	2	0	66	46
8	4	2	2	161	130
9	3	2	1	174	103
10	3	1	2	90	135
6 <sup>th</sup> Form	5	2	3	176	197



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## Athletics:

District Championships in November

Year 7: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Junior (Yr 8 & 9): 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Intermediate (Yr 10 & 11): 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Senior (Yr 12 & 13): 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

## Sporting House Results:

Year Group	Event	Winner
7	Rugby	Dunstan
11	Cross Country	Augustine
8	Cross Country	Columba
10	Cross Country	Fisher
9	Cross Country	Becket
7	Cross Country	Becket
11	Tug of War	More
9	Rugby	More
8	Rugby	Becket
9	Football	Augustine
9	Basketball	Becket
8	Tug of War	Augustine
9	Tug of War	Dunstan
8	Football	Beckett
10	Tug Of War	Augustine
6 <sup>th</sup> Form	Tug of War	Augustine
10	Football	Augustine
7	Tug of War	Fisher
7	Football	Augustine



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## The New St Francis Xavier Centre

Richard Challoner School opened its doors to the new St Francis Xavier Centre in September 2016. Having been appointed the Teacher in Charge, I joined the school in June, with Mr Gregory as the second Teacher for the provision. With a new layout and new resources, we were ready to welcome an intake of new students. Celia, Rosie and Ewan were our first cohort, who took on all new experiences that we presented to them. In just one term, we have been fortunate to watch them settle into their new life here at the school, develop their self-esteem and grow in confidence. The first challenge was Challoner Day, when the whole school travelled to London for the traditional annual Mass. It was a great day and the students looked smart in their new uniforms. The students have a varied curriculum, ranging from Maths, English and ICT to other more creative lessons, such as Gardening, Cooking, Music, Drama and Crafts.



Every term, the students plan and organise a student social evening to develop their social skills and independence, as well as enjoying lots of trips such as the recent Careers Event at the ExCel Centre, a work based trip to Nando's, the Science Museum, as well as weekly Independent travel training sessions with Mr Gregory. Although the Centre is a provision for students with moderate learning needs, they have many opportunities to access the main school activities, more recently the Year 7 Engineer Day and the Sixth Form party.

Timetables run in conjunction with the rest of the school; therefore the students currently have interactions with up to 20 staff members from the whole school per week, which will aid their transition into college life or employment. Sixth Form students also volunteer their time during their Induction Week, as well as weekly lessons to support them day to day. The school is very proud of the new facility and the current students and we look forward to welcoming up to eight students in the first year and a further eight in the second year.



*Miss Morley*



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## ***The Jack Petchey Award - 2016/2017***

<b>Outstanding pupils who have won £250 to spend on the items of their choice</b>	<b>What the money was spent on</b>
Jack Higgins	Life size model of a brain, a stress thermometer, stress mood cards and a 'Let's get Rational Board Game'
Joshua O'Brien	Basketball nets Special card for the 3D printer
Ryan McBride	Various match footballs

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### **'Practical ideas for a Happier Living' Course**

- 'Practical Ideas for a Happier Living'
  - 6 week course designed for parents to learn new coping strategies to manage stress and anxiety
  - 21st February to 28th March - 6.45-9.15pm - make a note on your calendar!
  - Further details will be sent by ParentMail in January
-