

St Edward's School Newsletter

Senior Leadership Team update

Over the last few weeks, the Senior Leadership Team have been visiting many lessons to look at the quality of teaching and learning across all key stages. This has taken the form of lesson observations where a member of the Senior Leadership Team observes a whole lesson; and learning walks, where a member of the Senior Leadership Team drops in to 3 or 4 lessons during a 1 hour period. Feedback is then given to the teachers as part of their ongoing professional development.

Student work books have been looked at by the Senior Leadership Team to monitor the impact lessons are having on student learning, and how the teachers are feeding back to students about their work. Students have been talked to, to enable us to find out what their thoughts are on the feedback in their work books. In particular we have been focussing on the feedback that teachers are giving the students with an emphasis on ensuring that students are told exactly what has been done well, specifically what can be done to improve the piece of work/performance/practice and how to go about doing so. We are also looking to see that students have responded to this feedback and so improve the quality of their work. Please look at your child's workbooks regularly, so that you can see the quality of work that he or she is

producing.

Another focus has been to ensure that home learning is being set and completed regularly to a high standard. The set time of one week for students to complete their home learning helps them to develop their organisational skills and home learning itself will enable students to become better independent learners. Not only will they practice their research skills but they will be able to consolidate their learning and/or prepare for the forthcoming learning. Part of our aim has been to help families to organise home learning around their own commitments, rather than the school directing the schedule. Students should no longer be able to tell parents and carers that 'none was set', as there is always revision, and preparation for further learning to do. For the same reason, if students rush their home learning, then the rest of the allocated time can also be filled with revision and preparation.

Outside of the classroom, teachers have been meeting together each week to discuss different aspects of teaching and learning. In particular, groups have been set up to develop extension tasks for all students as well as ensuring that lessons are engaging and creative. Teachers have welcomed this extended time to meet together regularly to share good practice.

A further focus for this term has been that of Literacy (reading, writing and communication) and teachers have reflected upon this important part of teaching and how best to raise the profile and practice in all lessons

Mr Henry—Assistant Headteacher

Poolle Junior Open

Many of our students produced drawings on the theme of Natural History which were entered in to the Drawing competition entitled the Poolle Junior Open.

This competition was organised by the Poolle Museum in conjunction with an exciting exhibition showcasing a selection of drawings lent by the British Museum called 'Lines of Thought'.

Imogen Barham in Year 7 was selected as a prize winner in her age group and attended a presentation during half-term at the Museum.

Also this term our sixth form A level Art students and Year 11 GCSE Art students visited the Tate Modern in London to see a retrospective exhibition of the work of the American 20thC Artist Georgia O'Keeffe. Much of this Artist's work has not be lent outside of America so this was a unique opportunity to see a large selection of her work. Year 11 and Year 12 students are producing some exciting work in response to work seen at the exhibition.

Mrs Morris—Subject Leader Art



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Commissioning Ceremony

You are invited to join us to celebrate

Mr Michael Antram's

**Commissioning Ceremony as
Headteacher of St Edward's
School**

Monday 5 December 2016

7pm

St Mary's RC Church, Wimborne
Road, Poole

**The Right Reverend Mark
O'Toole, Bishop of Plymouth
and**

**The Right Reverend Nicholas
Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury**

Will be in attendance

RSVP rharris@st-
edwards.poole.sch.uk

GCSE Presentation Evening

Last week it was our pleasure to welcome back our class of 2016 to receive their GCSE certificates in the Sports Hall. The annual Presentation Evening was really well attended by students, their parents and carers and staff. It was lovely to see the many students who have remained in our Sixth Form as well as those who have moved on to pastures new. The evening was opened and closed by Mr Antram; and Mr Kemish expertly recalled some of the highlights from the last 4 years through pictures and words. There was music from Katie Silsby and Harriette Stacey and the prayers were led by Paul Andrewartha. Our guest speaker,

Mike Royles (former teacher and senior teacher for some 30 years at St Edward's), gave the students some excellent words of advice as well as recalling many of his own experiences from both his time in school and beyond. He was affectionately received by students, parents, carers and staff alike. Jayne Perry, who led the year group for the majority of their time at St Edward's was also present which was lovely to see. It was a great evening where we took time to celebrate the fantastic achievements of the students and catch up on their latest news. It is always so inspiring to see how they grow into these

young adults and take their place in the world today. Thank you to all who took part and very best wishes to all of our students.



Marine Conservation—comparing Madagascar to Dorset

Students from GCSE Geography and A-level Sciences attended the Bryanston Science Society Lecture on 11th November. Dr Josie Pegg was invited to talk about her work in establishing marine conservation areas in both Madagascar and Dorset. She gave an amazing insight into why each region is deserved of environmental protection and the work that she and colleagues/students performed to reach the designation of marine

conservation status. She was able to describe the balance between the ecosystem, fishing, leisure and tourist use of each area and how these factors must be balanced in any plan that conserves the marine environment for all. Students were told how they can take their first steps and contribute to marine conservation projects which led Dr Pegg into her field of research with Bournemouth University. Our grateful thanks as ever to

Bryanston for this opportunity and to the teachers (Mrs Dell, Mr Dell, Mr Major) for supporting the trip.
**Mr Keene—Subject Leader
Science**



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Afternoon of Entertainment

St Edward's School
Community would like to
invite Senior Citizens to an

Afternoon of
Entertainment
with refreshments

Tuesday 13
December 2016
2pm to 4pm

For a ticket please
contact St Edward's
School on
01202 740950