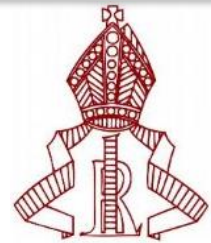


Bishop Luffa School

2025-2026 Issue 5

May 2026



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

We have two new School Captains! Well done to Matilda De Bathe, 10Andrewes, and Isaac Siddle, 10King. The campaign was uplifting, with ten highly articulate candidates who valued their opponents' opinions and led with messages of hope. The future is in safe hands.

One unique event often gets overlooked on our busy school calendar: our annual cricket match against MCC. Bishop Luffa School is the only state school in the country that is on their fixture list. Most years it is an exciting event that we are glad to take part in, which is a polite way of saying that we lose! This year we posted one of our highest ever scores and had a student score a century for the first time in the competition! Arran Goode, 13Story, batted calmly for the whole innings, and his 103 means that he has won himself a day at Lord's Cricket Ground.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the exploits of our amazing students!

Best wishes,

Austen Hindman
Head Teacher.



Computer Science Celebrate Fantastic Competition Success

The Computer Science department has been celebrating some fantastic competition success this term!

In the recent [Perse Coding Team Challenge](#), Woody Willis (12Ridgeway) achieved an outstanding result, placing among the top performers nationally. This year's event included the challenging Gold Rush round for Sixth Form students, where a score of 11+ secured a coveted Gold Award—an excellent accomplishment. He is set to receive a small gift from the competition sponsor [Jane Street](#) in recognition of his achievement.



We also had success in the [DressCode Halloween](#) national competition, where Jack Cathro (7Burrows) impressed the judges with his coding skills in a spooky-themed game. Jack won a prize from the competition sponsors. Well done to both students for representing the department so brilliantly!

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Molly and Elodie Make Their Mark on The Mall at the London Mini Marathon 2026

Bishop Luffa School are incredibly proud of Molly Smithers (12Ki) and Elodie Hill (11Ki), who were selected to represent the South East of England in the prestigious London Mini Marathon on Saturday 25th April. Recognised as one of the most celebrated junior road running events in the country, the London Mini Marathon brings together the very best young athletes from across the UK and is a hugely respected stepping stone for aspiring runners. An incredible achievement in itself, Molly and Elodie were two of just six girls selected in their category to compete for the South East team. They lined up in a fiercely competitive and elite field of 70 runners, featuring the finest young talent from across the nation. Their selection is a testament to the dedication, commitment and talent they have shown throughout the season for club, school and county.



Both runners performed brilliantly on the day, with Molly securing an outstanding 9th place finish and Elodie crossing the line in an impressive 27th place. These fantastic results on such a prestigious national stage reflect not only their hard work and determination, but also the strength of athletics within our school community. Congratulations to Molly and Elodie on this incredible achievement, we look forward to seeing what they accomplish next.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

And Then There Were None

The School's Drama Club were delighted to welcome parents, carers and students to a spine-tingling night of mystery and suspense as they brought Agatha Christie's masterpiece, *And Then There Were None*, to life!

Set on the isolated, rugged cliffs of Soldier Island, this classic "whodunnit" told the story of ten strangers, each lured to a remote mansion by a mysterious host. As a storm cuts them off from the mainland, a hidden voice accused each guest of a dark secret from their past. One by one, following the eerie lines of a nursery rhyme, the guests began to fall. With tensions rising and trust shattering, the survivors needed to discover who among them was the killer before the rhyme reached its chilling conclusion.



Featuring standout performances from the leads—including Sofia Melara-Moorby (7Ridgeway) as Vera and Jackson Harding (8Sherborne) as Justice—this production showcased the incredible dramatic range, precision, and intensity of our students. From the sharp military precision of the General to the brooding shadows of the island itself, this was a production bursting with atmosphere, psychological depth, and heart-pounding twists.

Here are the views from the Co-Directors, Ivy Revill (9Andrewes) and Georgina Hitchin (9Burrows) of the play:

Ivy's view: "I'm Ivy Revill. I co-directed *And Then There Were None* with Georgina Hitchin. I wrote the script our actors used. The truth is I was bored after Georgina, I and many others finished the play we were currently working on. The idea of just waiting for the next play to roll around felt oddly sad. We posed the idea of directing our own play in conversation, but that seemed like all it would be. I can't really remember writing it but once it was done, naturally, I instantly forgot it existed. Georgina posed the idea of auditions, one thing led to another and I found myself standing in front of a group of people here to watch our play. Regardless of the several months of practice, rehearsals, endless run-throughs, it still feels like I haven't answered Georgina's question, "shall we do our own play?" And now here we are again in this bleakish period without a play and I pose the question once more, "Shall we do another?""

Georgina's view: "I am Georgina Hitchin and I co-directed *And Then There Were None* with Ivy Revill who wrote the play, we are both in Year 9. We spent around three hours casting the roles as all the actors were incredibly talented. We finally finished the cast list and started to direct it. We spent about 5-7 months staging, directing, rehearsals and run-throughs this performance but it all felt like a blur that went way too quickly. The actors worked so hard to perfect it and they gave so much of their time to this play. When it came to the play it was a very nerve-racking experience for everyone even Ivy and I were nervous but it all went so smoothly. The tech team also helped a lot with the lighting and sounds. When we performed around 120 people turned to watch, most were family and friends of the actors and some were a few teachers from school which was an amazing turn out. Overall, it was an amazing experience for my future and I am very pleased that I got the chance to do it."



Exploring the Dreaming Spires: Year 11 Visit to Oxford

Recently, our Year 11 students had the exciting opportunity to visit St John's College at the University of Oxford, giving them a valuable insight into life at one of the world's most prestigious universities.



Following the talk, students were given a guided tour of St John's College. They explored the beautiful grounds, historic buildings, and student facilities, gaining a real sense of what studying and living there might be like. The tour sparked plenty of questions and helped students to imagine themselves in a university environment.

The day began with an informative talk about the Oxford admissions process. Students learned about what universities like Oxford are really looking for, including academic curiosity, independent thinking, and a genuine passion for their chosen subjects. The session also helped to demystify the application process, offering practical advice on personal statements, interviews, and entrance requirements.



A highlight of the day was lunch in the college's main dining hall. Sitting where generations of students have eaten before them, our group experienced a small taste of university life in an inspiring and traditional setting.

In the afternoon, the visit continued with a session at the Ashmolean Museum. Students engaged with a range of fascinating exhibits, linking their learning to real-world artefacts and deepening their appreciation of history, art, and culture.

Overall, the trip was both inspiring and informative. It encouraged students to think ambitiously about their futures and gave them a clearer understanding of the opportunities available to them after school.

Jamie Saunders, Head of Sixth Form

Bishop Luffa's International Information Evening

In March Bishop Luffa School hosted its first International Information Evening in the Bartlett Hall. Welcoming all multicultural, multinational families with children who are being educated in and around Chichester, the International Information Evening was dedicated to explaining key areas in English school life, as well as giving families and carers an opportunity to meet people in their community, ask questions and support their children.



The evening started with a talk by Mr Hindman on how the English education system works – including a detailed look at GCSEs and A levels and time for questions.

Sanctuary in Chichester's Pam Herrington then gave a very helpful and detailed talk on how to parent teenagers and manage emotions, followed by Simon Brown, Chichester College's head of additional learning support, resources and welfare, who shone a light on Special Educational Needs and Disability support.

Those attending the event had the opportunity to talk to West Sussex County Council (WSCC)'s Ethnic Minority & Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS), including their Polish-, Persian- and Ukrainian-speaking liaison officers. We are very grateful to Jo, Hamid and Elena at WSCC EMTAS for their interpreting skills, enthusiasm and support.

Guests were also offered bilingual materials in home languages ranging from Polish to Ukrainian, Russian, Dari, Pashto and Arabic. Created by the International Rescue Committee's education team, they explained the English education system, welcome packs and buddy support, among other topics.

In addition, they could visit stands kindly run by organisations which support multinational, multicultural families and carers. They included: UKHarvest, Chichester District Foodbank, the Dedicated Schools Team - Early Help Chichester Family Hub, Young People's Shop, Sanctuary in Chichester, WSCC EMTAS and Chichester College. There was also information about Careers, provided by Mrs Hopp, as well as school librarian Mrs Shuttleworth's stall which showcased our library's growing collection of home-language literature, plus free stickers and books.

Finally, the evening was made extra-special thanks to the fantastic support of the Bishop Luffa PFA (who provided light refreshments and ran the second-hand uniform shop), Mrs Gibson, Mrs Thompson, Miss Cooke and Mrs Christopher and, last but not least, everyone who baked delicious cakes and biscuits for our visitors.

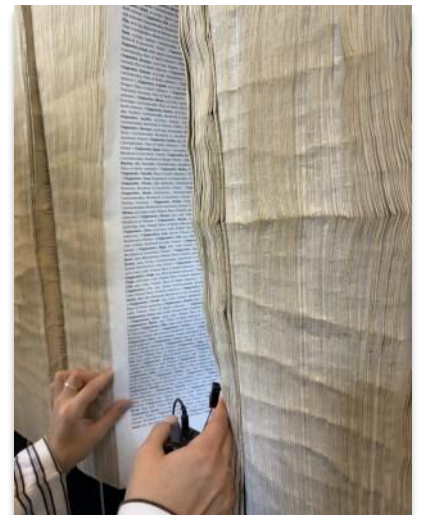
Sarah Smith, Pastoral Lead - Safeguarding and Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator

Remembering the Holocaust

As part of our events to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, two of our students, Layla Ragless and Sienna West (both 12Story) were selected to participate in the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz programme'.

Their trip to visit the Auschwitz museum began with an introductory seminar in London, where they could meet the other participants and their group leader. This was a great opportunity to become acquainted with the other people who were going to take part in the trip. In the seminar the focus was primarily on pre-war Jewish life, and how normal everything was before the war. The students then had a talk with a Holocaust survivor, who talked in depth about his upbringing, the separation of his family, the camps, homes, casualties, soldiers, rescuers and being reunited with his cousins.

Layla and Sienna then flew to Poland where they visited Auschwitz One, *"When we arrived at Auschwitz One we were taken into the entrance of the museum and given headphones for the guided tour. At first it all felt surreal, having flown to Poland and on the same day that we were lying in our beds in the comfort of our homes, now being stood in a place where so many never had the privilege of leaving. As we left the entrance of a rather comfortable building and began walking towards the Barracks, the names of every known victim were being read aloud. No music, no speaking, just the solemn remembrance of those who suffered finally*



having their name shown to the world. The names being read aloud was the first of many moments in this day that the scale of this genocide was put in perspective, just to think that every name being read was a person with a family, hopes and dreams that were never lived out, truly moved us."



Layla and Sienna have written a very moving article about their visit which you can read on the school website

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/news-2/remembering-the-holocaust/>

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

News from the Law Department

In May, the Year 12 Law class went to observe proceedings at the Portsmouth Magistrates Court. We listened to the District Judge and the Magistrates give their directions, sentences and judgments. There were a range of offences such as driving over the legal limit, assault, car theft and shop lifting. It was very interesting to see all the professionals in action and to witness how a court deals with the legal process. Our special thanks go to the volunteer magistrates for coming in to speak to the class and then hosting us in court.

The Year 12 Law students also had an opportunity to go to Gray's Inn London. Gray's Inn is one of the Inns of Court – the historic societies that educate and train barristers in England and Wales.



We had a tour of the Inn, lunch in the hall and then an afternoon of advocacy training led by our own Joe Foye, one of Bishop Luffa's past students who is currently training for the Bar and is also an in-house academic researcher at the Inn. His academic achievements are phenomenal having studied at both Oxford and Cambridge. The training he did with the students will be used for next year's Bar Mock Trial competition and beyond. Quite by chance, we saw and spoke to Gillian Keegan the former MP for Chichester. It was a fantastic day out and cemented for many of the students their decision to begin their pathway towards a career at the Bar. Our huge thanks go to Joe Foye for hosting us and giving so generously of his time and expertise for the day.

Fiona Langstone, Subject Lead for Law

Military Child in Education Day

On 24th April, students from Bishop Luffa School proudly marked Military Child in Education Day with a memorable and meaningful trip to Longleat Safari Park. The day also served as a "Purple Day," with students and staff wearing purple ribbons to show support for children from military families and to raise funds for SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity.



The visit to Longleat offered students an exciting opportunity to explore and connect outside the classroom. Highlights included close-up encounters with incredible wildlife such as giraffes, deer, sea lions, tigers, and lions. Many students particularly enjoyed the animal feeding experiences, as well as the adventure of the jungle cruise and the challenge of navigating the maze.

Beyond the activities, the day was about much more than just fun. It provided a valuable chance for students to build new friendships, strengthen bonds, and experience a sense of unity with others who share similar backgrounds and experiences. The trip fostered a strong sense of cohesion, mutual support, and belonging among the group. Overall, the day was a great success—combining learning, adventure, and community spirit while raising awareness and support for military families.

James and Amanda Bonney

Year 12 Law Student Awarded Magic Circle Internship

A big congratulations to Becca Challis one of our Year 12 Law students, who has been successful on application in being awarded the Clifford Chance Access Programme, which is a two year internship where she will have paid work experience at a variety of clients, 1-2-1 mentoring and many networking events. Clifford Chance is a Magic Circle firm. The Magic Circle is a prestigious group of five London-headquartered law firms known for high-stakes corporate and finance work, elite profitability, and global reach. Any placement with them is incredibly competitive and highly sought after. Becca, we are excited for you and all the doors that this opportunity will open and hope we you will come back to Bishop Luffa after your A Levels and university study to come to speak to our Law students about your experiences and your tips on how to get ahead in Law. You are fabulous!

Ms Fiona, Langstone, Teacher of Law



Spanish Visitors

5 years making memories together!

Every Spring we are lucky to receive a visit from Nuryana school, our partner school in Tenerife. This year hosted 127 year 8 Spanish students and 15 Spanish teachers and decided to organise a fun day so they could meet our lovely year 8 cohort. We started the day in Portsmouth where we visited the Dockyard and learnt about English history. We then visited the Old part of the city, watched the hovercraft, walked along the beach and ended the visit with a picnic lunch in Southsea common.





We returned to Bishop Luffa late in the afternoon to show our visitors our lovely school. Our students did a brilliant job at touring them around and explained to them how English schools work. We had some cookies together and wrote 200 messages to each other in both languages. We used these messages of love and gratitude to make a mural to decorate the school corridors.

We have been working together for 5 years now and cannot wait for our next adventure together, this time in Spain!

Elizabeth López Gamero

Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

Students' Achievements

Congratulations to the following students:

The Chichester Under 16 Rugby team won the Sussex League at the end of April. They entered the Finals as the underdogs against Horsham and smashed out a fantastic, skilled performance and won 36/24! Those representing Luffa were George Phillips (11Andrewes), George Nicholson (11Burrows), Ben Stewart (11Andrewes), George Baker (11Andrewes) and Noah Baverstock (11Otter). This was a brilliant achievement as the boys completed their journey in the junior section and it was an excellent way to end the season. Well done boys!



Well done to Abi Farndell (11Ridgeway), who was selected to take part in the English Championships acrobatic gymnastics competition in April.

Congratulations to Alex Burford-Pugh (7Burrows) who competed in Judo recently in Southampton and he got Gold for his age and weight category.



Millie Malcolm (8Ridgeway) had an amazing time at Chichester Music Festival, and was awarded honours in the guitar for solo grade 6. It was the first time that Mille had attended any type of music competition and came 3rd in Solo grade IV & under.

The Bishop Luffa Cheer Team had a fantastic time at the Cheer City Summer Games in May and achieved an amazing 2nd place. Congratulations to all the students involved.



Henry Fraser (10King) recently successfully trialled and is now an official member of the Wessex Rowing Squad for the Junior Inter-regional Rowing Championships. This represents the first of three top rowing events for Juniors in the country and a place on this team is amazing. He did brilliantly at his first national rowing event coming 9th in the country (out of 31 qualifying rowers for his age group). Henry got through to the B final and came 3rd (out of Finals A to F). Wessex came 4th for single sculling out of the 16 regions, the highest result for some time.



Congratulations to Niamh Clark-Lyons (11King) who made it to the final 100 for UK Young Dancer in both the classical and theatre sections. Niamh will be going to Trinity Laban in June for the next rounds.



Year 7 “Proyecto Mafalda”

As part of Year 7 Spanish lessons, every summer term we teach our students about “Mafalda”. “Mafalda” was a world known Spanish comic character. An intelligent, witty and charming little girl that questioned everything in life. The creator “Quino” used Mafalda comics to spread messages of love and peace around the world. Every year, we run a competition and ask our students to draw their own Mafalda and write lovely messages in Spanish. We had a huge amount of entries this year and therefore it was very difficult to choose only one winner. For this reason, we decided to give two prizes. The winners of the “Proyecto Mafalda 2026” are: Sophia Glover (7Andrewes) and Immy Younghusband (7Burrows), who both won an original Mafalda comic in Spanish. We hope you enjoy it girls!



Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

Dance News

The Spring term is always the busiest time of year for the Dance department at Bishop Luffa School! We started our run of dance events with a visit from 3fall Dance company. They led an inspiring workshop with a group of students from Years 10 and 12.



As we headed towards the end of the Spring term, we had the Interhouse Dance Competition which was won overall by Ridgeway House. The following evening, we hosted our annual dance event to showcase performances and choreographies from students in Years 7 to 13. This was a wonderful evening and we are very proud of all the students who performed dances that were produced both in lessons and in extra-curricular clubs and activities.



Our wonderful Year 13 A Level students successfully completed their final practical exam on the last day before Easter. This was followed by our Year 11 GCSE students completing their practical coursework just after Easter.

After Easter we took the Year 10 GCSE Dance students to perform at Dance House at the Pavilion Theatre in Worthing. They performed exceptionally well and we received so many wonderful comments and compliments from audience members and the event organisers.

We recently said farewell to both our Year 13 A Level and Year 11 GCSE Dance students. It is always a sad time for the team but we wish them well and we know that they will all go on to do great things.



Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty and Team Leader for Dance

Noughts and Crosses

Last month thirty-seven Year 9 students enjoyed an unforgettable theatre trip to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford to watch a powerful stage adaptation of Noughts and Crosses. Having recently studied the play based on Malorie Blackman's novel, the students were instantly engaged as the intense story of teenagers Stephy and Callum navigating a segregated world was brought to life. The performance sparked mature discussions among the students about racism, prejudice and social justice.



Sally Pilgrim, Teacher of English

A Memorable Day of Cricket

Bishop Luffa enjoyed a memorable day at Chichester Priory Park as we welcomed the historic Marylebone Cricket Club for another excellent fixture between the two sides. Founded in 1787, MCC remains one of the most famous and influential cricket clubs in the world and is regarded as the guardian of the laws and traditions of the game. As one of the very few state schools still fortunate enough to host this fixture, it was a wonderful occasion for everyone connected with Bishop Luffa.

Played under beautiful blue skies, the match was enjoyed by players and spectators alike, with the atmosphere perfectly complemented by a superb lunch kindly supplied by Turner's Pies, which proved extremely popular with both teams.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly Arran Goode's (13Story) magnificent innings of 103, the first century of his cricketing career. Arran was the mainstay of the Bishop Luffa innings throughout, batting with elegance and composure. His knock included a remarkable 12 fours and 6 sixes, combining stylish strokeplay with powerful hitting as he led the side superbly against strong MCC bowling. Reaching a

maiden century is always a special moment, and this was an innings that all those present will remember for a long time and we are so proud Arran did this for Bishop Luffa.

There were also important contributions with the ball and in the field. Josh Hughes-Jones (9Andrewes) produced a brilliant spell, taking two wickets in two balls, including the key scalp of the MCC opening batter to swing momentum back towards Bishop Luffa. Toby delivered an outstandingly economical spell of 6 overs, 3 maidens, 10 runs and 1 wicket, maintaining control and pressure. Rowan Evans (8Wilson) also impressed with the ball, finishing with figures of 6 overs for 28 runs, while also taking a sharp catch at point.

Most importantly, the match was played in excellent spirit throughout and reflected everything that makes school cricket so special. Eli Yambo (12Ridgeway) was awarded the MCC Spirit of Cricket award for his 'willingness to entertain when batting' and relentless energy and positivity in the field. Thank you to everyone from Bishop Luffa, both past and present, who helped support the occasion, and sincere thanks to the Marylebone Cricket Club for making the trip to Chichester Priory Park for another memorable fixture.



Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Year 9 History ChichestHER project with the Novium

The History Department has been working with the Novium Museum in Chichester this school year to cocreate a loan box to complement the ChichestHER exhibition which opens in October 2026.

Having been using loan boxes to support our KS3 Curriculum we were asked to support their bid for funding for the exhibition from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, following the success of this bid we were then invited to work with the museum so students could be directly involved in developing a loan box.



A group of 15 Year 9 students volunteered to take part in the project which involved 2 after school sessions and finished with a trip to the Novium at the end of April. The students discovered the stories of the women planned to feature in the exhibition and chose objects relevant to the women's stories. Next the students curated the objects by writing parts of the labels that explain the objects to teachers using the loan box in schools. The items were purchased by the museum (including some 19th

Century Russian postcards which were posted from Ukraine) and museum staff put the finishing touches to the labels. Together students and museum staff have created a lasting resource which can be used by schools in and around Chichester. During our visit to the museum we were able to see the finished box as well as find out more about the marketing involved with a successful exhibition. We also visited the current Elmer exhibition which the Year 9 students loved!

One of our students who took part wrote:

"The ChichesterHER workshops were incredibly fun and eye opening as, prior to it, I didn't know about any historical figures who came from Chichester let alone any female figures. I really enjoyed connecting with other students who also enjoyed learning about history. My favourite part of the experience was suggesting and choosing which objects would go in the loan box and my favourite object was definitely the squishy bread. Overall it was an incredibly enjoyable experience and everyone was very friendly."



Thank you to all the students involved for taking part so enthusiastically to make sure the women's history is recognised and remembered.

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History

PSHE Topics

The following topics will be covered during PSHE lessons during the second half of the Summer term (but may be subject to change).

If you have any concerns about the topics being discussed, please contact your child's Head of House or Mrs Smerdon-Corp, Teacher in charge of PSHE (smerdon-corp@bishopluffa.org.uk) The following subjects are being covered.

Year 7	Knife Crime Energy Drinks Puberty Self Esteem Smoking	Year 8	Healthy Relationships Recap on puberty Equality Act and discrimination Racism Smoking/Vaping
Year 9	Self Esteem Grief Bullying Vaping	Year 10	Self-Harm Suicide Cults Unhealthy relationships



Evie Clark 9St



Aitana Lorenzo 8Ki



Harry Bonney 9Ri



**Wonderful Wildlife - Spring 2026
Photography Competition Winners
Dogs Category**



Teacher
winner:
Mr
Goldsmith



Edgar Vann 8Bu



Jack Castle 10Ki



Ruby Archer 8Wi



**Wonderful Wildlife - Spring 2026
Photography Competition Winners
Wildlife Category**



Teacher
winner:
Mrs
Bannister

Prayers

The Parents' and Carers' Prayer and Support Group have suggested that we circulate a school prayer list, so that families can reflect the present concerns of the school in their prayers. We will aim to update the list every month.

Prayer List:

Every month:

- Students and their families
- All our staff
- Our Governors and Trustees
- Our Clergy Team and Youth Workers
- Our Worship Team
- Our Parents & Friends Association
- Our Christian Union
- Our links to the wider church
- House and Sixth Form Charities

During May and June:

- Our new School Captains, Isaac and Matilda
- All Year 11s, 12s and 13s preparing for exams, and their families
- All students and staff who are preparing for Fruition
- Our PFA preparing for the Prom
- The Sixth Form Committee as they prepare for the Leavers' Ball
- House Drama rehearsals
- Sports Day preparations

School Calendar

Monday 25th – Friday 29th May

Thursday 4th June

Wednesday 10th June

Monday 15th June

Thursday 25th June

Friday 26th June

Saturday 27th June

Tuesday 30th June

Friday 3rd July

Tuesday 7th July

Wednesday 8th July

Thursday 9th July

Friday 10th July

Monday 13th – Friday 17th July

Tuesday 14th July

HALF TERM

Year 12 Parents' & Carers' Higher Education Meeting

Fruition

PFA Meeting (6pm)

Year 13 Leavers' Ball

Year 11 Prom

PFA Big Band & Cocktails Night

Year 7 into Year 8 Parents' & Carers' Induction Evening

INSET DAY

House Drama / Enterprise Day

House Drama Finals

Year 12 Parents' & Carers' Consultation Evening

Sports Day

Year 12 Work Experience Week

PFA Meeting (6pm)



FRUITION 2026

An evening to celebrate the fruits of our creativity and the achievements of students across the Arts and Design Technology

Wednesday 10th June // 6.00 - 8.00pm

