



# ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

## DEVELOPING THE WHOLE PERSON

Ref: Parental Bulletin

16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

And we're back into the school routine with a bang.....! This week has seen a launch into Enrichment with the Y12 students on Wednesday enjoying a full day of business competition organised by the school, which was invaluable in bonding the new year group together allowing current and new students to work together, get to know each other and have fun.

On Thursday, Mrs Davis took 3 buses, over 100 students and 12 staff down to London to see the theatre show, "Back to the Future". Our more senior colleagues might recall the original film back in the 1980's but this was a dynamic theatrical showpiece which the students really enjoyed – the special effects were amazing and the lead part was played by a lad from Bromsgrove! Trips like these go far further than the focus of the day. They are more about the outing, the location and witnessing life beyond the local area. To coin a phrase from Mrs Davis, "the students were buzzing!" Miss Hughes, ably assisted by Miss Knight – the Science duo turned their hand to live commentary, and not one to shy away from the public address system, gave a bespoke and expert live narration to their party of students which kept them entertained particularly as they were often caught in traffic. A unique time to experience London, they witnessed mile after mile of mourners queuing to pay their respects to the Queen. The students were impeccably well behaved with the theatre making a point of saying this to Mrs Davis – a very well done to all and thank you to parents/carers who have contacted us to say how much their child enjoyed the day. For many students it was their first time to London, and the trip provided an aspirational insight as to where they may go for their higher education, university, future jobs and maybe a city to make their home in, in the future. Last but not least, thank you to Jessica W, our unofficial photographer for the day who took control of the camera and created a collage of photos which can be found [HERE](#).



## Curriculum Evenings

We held the Curriculum Evenings on Wednesday and Thursday for all year groups (except Y10). It was great to see so many students and parents/carers attend; they heard a variety of speakers but the main was from the Heads of Year as they spoke about the year ahead. I have sent out an evaluation of the evening for parents to complete so that we can identify any areas of support that we need to target. I would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing them.

[Y9 & Y11 Survey](#)

[Y12 & Y13 Survey](#)

The powerpoints from the evening can be found [HERE \(Y9 & Y11\)](#) and [HERE \(Y12 & Y13\)](#). Should you have any further queries please direct them to your Heads of Year:

Y9

[Mr A Reading](#)

Y11

[Mr E Mill](#)

Y12 & Y13 – pastoral

[Mr P Foley](#)

Y12 & Y13 – academics and aspirations

[Mrs L Threadgold](#)

## Year 9

Nearly two full weeks into the Autumn Term, and Mr Reading has become familiar with the new Y9 year group. They have made an excellent and positive start to the term:-

*Erin H, "love the freedom of eating in the Canteen or outside in the yards – choices! Science and Food lessons are really good."*

*Maya G: "I have settled in well, the transition was brilliant. The teachers here are really friendly"*.

*David D: "After a few days, it's easy to find your way around. The sixth formers have been really helpful and staff are super friendly"*.

Next week, we will be talking to some more Y9 plus Y12 students to see how they are faring during these early days in a new school.

## Blackwell Court

The start to Y9 often follows a similar pattern in the early days, with the students remaining within their middle school groups. In order to bring them together as a cohesive year group, we are taking the entire year to Blackwell Court in early October, near Bromsgrove. They will spend a day taking part in a range of outdoor activities from zip wires, to climbing trees, 3G swings and much, much more! They will have a brilliant day there and it allows their Form Tutors to get to know them well too. A letter will be going out shortly to all Y9 parents about this activity. Please be aware, that the school will financially cover students from lower income families – please click [HERE](#) to find out if you qualify. Alternatively please contact [Mrs Baker](#) should you prefer to talk it through.

## Dates for the Diary – First Half Term

Date	Event	Location
Wed 21.09.22	Y12 Team Builder Day	In School
w/c 03.10.22	Y12 Assessment Week	Sports Hall
Mon 03.10.22	Y9 Blackwell Court teambuilding	Off Site
Mon 04.10.22	Y9 Blackwell Court teambuilding	Off Site
Thu 06.10.22	Y9 Open Evening	Sports Hall
w/c 10.10.22	Y9 Assessment Week	Sports Hall/Classroom
Fri 21.01.22	Half Term, 3.50PM	

**How to Report Absence:** please sign up to the Studybugs app which will enable you to report attendance through this dedicated means. [Studybugs – Register](#)

**Students off to College and University**

As schools return for the Autumn term, so do Universities and Colleges. I would like to wish all students well as they start their onward journey to higher education; Freshers week is ahead of them, making friends and trying out new ventures at clubs and societies – an exciting time for all.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G T O'Connor'.

**G T O'Connor BSc (Hons) NPQH  
Principal**