

Name:

Form:

# College News



Monday, 13 September

Issue 1

It is with great pleasure that I write to introduce myself in this, the first edition of our new College newsletter. I have been very fortunate so far with the welcome I have received from pupils, parents, colleagues, local Clergy and Governors, all of whom have contributed in so many ways to making my arrival at the College so enjoyable. In particular, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Mr Summerfield, who showed me great kindness and support as I was preparing to take up my new post. Mr Summerfield has left the College in a tremendously strong position after many years of distinguished service, and I am sure that you will all wish to join with me in wishing him a very long and happy retirement.

The strength of our current position is reflected, amongst other things, in a pleasing set of examination results last summer. Pupils in Years 11 and 13 were enormously successful across a whole range of subjects and I congratulate them on their achievements. The College has a deserved

reputation as a very strong performer on the local and national stages, and I can assure you that I am committed to ensuring that this reputation is fully maintained. I had the opportunity last week to speak with all Year groups at a series of special Assemblies about my expectation that all pupils should strive to achieve as highly as possible in all the different areas of College life. I am delighted with how our pupils are already responding to the challenges I have set before them and I look forward to seeing them grow in confidence as the year progresses.

I am equally keen to share thoughts with parents and other members of the wider College community, and I am hoping to meet a good number of you in the welcome events that have been organised for the coming months. In the meantime, let me thank you once again for the warm welcome I have received so far and please accept my very best wishes for the year ahead.

*Mr Walker*



## Name our Newsletter

For future editions of our Newsletter, we are looking for a permanent title.

We want pupils and parents to come up with suggestions!

All ideas should be given to Form Tutors and there will be a prize for the winning suggestion.

## What a result!



Year 13 A level results were outstanding again this year, maintaining the Sixth Form as a high performer at the local and national level. More than a third of all grades were A\* - B grades. The new A\* grade was achieved 21 times with 2 students achieving A\* grades in all 3 of their subjects. Deputy Head, Mr Harrison, said: "It is pleasing to see the range of student success at A2 examinations with most students meeting their individual target grades. Their success was well deserved and reflects the effective partnership between students, parents and the college."

# New IT rooms are so suite

While the new term has seen an influx of new staff and, of course, all the Year 7 pupils who joined us for the first time, there has also been a new addition to the school's facilities, with the opening of a brand new IT Diploma Suite.

Work on the Diploma building, situated behind St Edward Hall, started in April and was completed for the start of the new academic year.

Consisting of two classrooms; the main room, D1, has 19 PC's allocated for each pupil who has taken up the Diploma option. Within this room there is a large conference table for group work and class discussions. The second room, D2, has 15 PC's and will be also used by IT students for normal lessons as and when required. The Higher Diploma in IT (Level 2) will be taught over the two years, including seven units as part of the principal learning.

There is also a project, functional skills within ICT, Maths and English as part of the generic learning.

The Higher Diploma in IT is based around three core themes:

- BUSINESS – how organisations work and the role technology can play
- PEOPLE – how to work well with other people
- TECHNOLOGY – how to create tech-



nology solutions

The qualification at the end of the two years for the Higher Diploma will be the equivalent to 7 GCSEs A\* to C.

The teacher delivering the Diploma option is Mr Summerfield. He is delighted with new suite and paid thanks to those involved in getting the block up and running, he said: "I would like to give a personal and special thanks to Mr Lee, Mr Hill and Mr Molyneux from the site and IT teams for all their ded-

ication during the start of the project and their continued support in getting it ready for the Year 10 students.

"If you have not already visited the new building you should come down and take a look."

## Celebration of Achievement



On Thursday, our Year 8 & 9 pupils were rewarded for their efforts last year during the annual Celebration of Achievement Awards. Heads of Year were joined by Governors Mr Evans and Mr Kendall, to pay tribute to the achievements of pupils from both year groups. Mr Burke, Head of Lower School, said: "The atmosphere throughout both ceremonies was superb as the students truly celebrated the recognition that all their commitment and efforts over the past year deserved." Pictured are Joseph Connor (far right), Year 9 Head Teacher's Prize, Gregory Davies (left) and Stephanie Palin, both 9E, Outstanding Commitment to Serving the School and Wider Community during their time in 8E. Grace Morgan received the Year 8 Head Teacher's Prize for her work and achievements last year.