

Friday 26th June 2026

Dear parents and carers,

We have seen some of the UK's hottest temperatures this week haven't we? Our young people have shown true resilience and managed the classrooms and outdoor spaces very well. From Monday please ensure your child is in full uniform including blazers and ties. Students should only wear PE kit on their designated PE day.

Last night we said goodbye to our Year 11 at Prom. They looked wonderful and had a splendid night on the banks of the Thames. We look forward to next seeing the students all on results and enrollment day. Our second ever Flourish and Futures Week is nearly upon us and we will be sharing more detailed information next week. We also have our second Community Tea party coming up, for which a record number of students applied to help with. And on Wednesday 180 Year 6 children will join us for their Transition Day.

Please be aware that all students were given an explicit message this afternoon to make their way straight home today. Sadly we have had a number of calls from local residents and businesses complaining about anti-social community behaviour. We know these are the actions of a very small minority but that then reflects on the whole Academy. Students who willfully ignore this request will be sanctioned.

Parent/ Carer survey

Many thanks to 175 of you, who took the time to complete this. It has provided some really useful feedback. This includes over three quarters of respondents stating that their child 'has a good experience' at the Academy which is above the benchmark of similar schools and that 82% of respondents identified the inclusivity of the Academy as a strength. We will take on board feedback regarding support for struggling and or SEND students and I am hoping that ongoing concerns about the food offer including value for money will be addressed when our new caterers start in September. More on that in the autumn!

There was some helpful feedback around communication. We have actually made considerable improvement to this over the last few years and this was also reflected in the survey. You should all receive a fortnightly letter from me as well as a termly celebratory newsletter. Heads of Years will often send regular communications too. If you think you are not receiving these, please get in touch with us. We also had some feedback about extending Progress Evening slots. Sadly we cannot do this and deliver Progress Evenings for all seven year groups - which we are committed to as well as an annual LCCD. However teachers are more than willing to speak with you if you have specific concerns.

Sports Day update

Following the postponement of Sports Day this week, we have a new date - Tuesday 14th July. Parents and carers of Year 7-10 will receive an updated letter from Mr Pritchard detailing the day's schedule.

Summer Music Concert

Our annual Summer Music concert is next week on **Thursday 2nd July** starting at 6.30pm. This is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased for £4 (and £3 for concessions) on the door. The seating arrangements are a first come first serve event so please do arrive promptly to get your chosen seating. Mr Smith has sent all parents/ carers a letter with further details.

Uniform Shop

School Uniform Direct will be holding pre-summer uniform measuring events on 2nd and 3rd July at their shop located at 84 Lillie Rd, Fulham SW6 1TL (see the poster attached to book a session). This is for parents/ carers who want to get their children measured for uniform before the summer rush or order special sizes in advance. If you

purchase a uniform pack during these measuring events, you can save up to 20% off uniform costs. Please see their new price list which is also attached.

CAF update

We wanted to highlight our fantastic student volunteer team, who helped at the St Luke's Summer Fair last weekend. They were wonderful ambassadors of the Academy and the Foundation. The event was a great success, and we are so grateful to our students for their commitment to our community.

Please note the change of date for our Year 12 Social Enterprise Final Presentation, which will now be Thursday 16 July at 5pm at Chelsea Academy. On the evening, students will present their ideas to a judging panel. It is a wonderful opportunity to see the creativity, commitment, and professionalism they have developed over the year.

Chaplain's message

The scorching weather this week has forced us all to slow down and alter our plans, most notably leading to the rescheduling of Sports Day. Moments like this are a lesson in humility. We live in a world where we humans can expect to control everything at the click of a button, yet a few days of high temperatures remind us of the power of the natural world to have the final say.

The scriptures tell us, *"A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps"* (Proverbs 16:9). Recognising our limitations isn't about giving up; it's about what the beautiful Eastern adage means when it says to trust in the Divine but "tether your camel." We set our course and do our part, but we walk with the humility that allows space for ultimate providence to steer us. May this weekend bring you a chance to cool down, reflect, and appreciate the rhythm of life when things don't go exactly as we planned. Stay safe and stay hydrated.

I am sure we will all be relieved to have cooler days and nights from Saturday and to be able to sleep better. Enjoy your weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mariella Ardron
Principal

Upcoming useful dates:

Thursday 2nd July - Summer Music Concert

Monday 6th - Friday 10th July - Flourish and Futures Week

Monday 6th - Friday 10th July - Year 10 Work Experience week

Tuesday 14th July - Sports Day