



### From the Headteacher

Easter is a time of great joy, following the suffering and death of Jesus. It is a time of hope, light and new beginnings. We all experience tough times, however as Christian people, how we respond to these often marks us out as people of Faith. In the Year of Mercy, we remember the importance of reaching out to others and metaphorically washing their feet as Jesus did on Maundy Thursday. Jesus certainly wasn't afraid to roll his sleeves up and get his hands dirty. He also found the greatest hope amongst sinners. We pray therefore that during this Easter period, we look out for others, being prepared to make a few sacrifices, knowing that there is hope and light to be found in even the most challenging situations.

Easter holidays are also a time when Years 11, 12 and 13 are preparing hard for their GCSEs and A Levels which begin shortly after their return. Please keep them in your prayers and if you have a son or daughter about to take their exams remind them of all the revision sessions being held in school over the holidays.

The Spring Term is always a busy but also exciting time for recruitment, as we look to appoint the very best teachers to work at SPH in the future. We say goodbye this Easter to four of our Schools Direct trainees; Kate Jones, Jennifer Kendall, Luke Hancock and Amy Mace, who all move on to their next teaching practice. Schools Direct is a teacher training initiative through the Inspire Teaching School Alliance which has brought great rewards for us as a school (and hopefully to the trainees too!). From appointment onto the scheme, through to training, teaching practice and professional development, the recruits are very much welcomed into the 'family' and are at the heart of all we do. We wish Mrs Jones, Miss Kendall and Miss Mace every success in the future and hope our paths cross again. Mrs Jones and Miss Kendall have already secured permanent posts in two of our Catholic diocesan schools which is great news! Mr Hancock goes to his next teaching practice at Six Villages Academy and I am delighted to say will then be joining the teaching staff at SPH in September, along with Jordan Roberts, also a Maths teacher. Mr Hancock and Mr Roberts are both ex-students of SPH, achieved first class Maths degrees and will both be adding even more depth and quality to our outstanding Maths team. Mr Robert's will join us after the May half term whilst Mr Hancock will be with us in September. All this is excellent news for us; particularly when excellent Maths teachers are hard to find nationally.

Our increased capacity also provides us with opportunities to offer our staff outstanding professional development opportunities (the cornerstone of outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes) and I am delighted to say that Mr Campbell has been successfully appointed at Six Villages Academy as Head of Maths taking up post after the May half term. This is initially on a secondment basis and will only commence once his commitment to exam groups has finished. Mr Williams will be providing professional support and guidance for the staff at Six Villages in the capacity of Deputy Headteacher. This is a wonderful opportunity for him too and Six Villages are very fortunate to have gained his services! Mr Williams will only work in a part time capacity at Six Villages and will be present at SPH to teach his exam groups. As you would expect, the students at SPH remain our number one priority and I can assure you that your children will continue to be provided with an outstanding quality of education.

I wish you all a very happy and holy Easter period. Go easy on the chocolate!

**God Bless**  
**David Carter**

### **Public Speaking team through to Regional Final**

Congratulations to Mollie Finniear, Lucy Owen and Amy Flood who won the District Final of the Rotary Club's speaking competition at Effingham on 12 March. Particularly well done to Mollie who was awarded Best Speaker. The team went on to compete at the Rotary Regional Final on 20 March and although they didn't win, it was a great achievement to compete at this level. Well done girls! Similarly, Nick Kabanias, Dylan Bhopal-Myers and Betty Perceval took part in the Regional Final of ESU competition in London, but in the face of particularly strong competition, were not successful on this occasion. We wish both teams well for their future endeavours.

### **BBC School Report Day**

For the seventh year in a row our intrepid reporters worked hard to produce a varied and interesting range of news articles and podcasts. This year class 8Edmunds ably took the lead, presenting reports which included the refugee crisis, personal safety, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Local BBC journalist, Andrew Thompson, kindly joined us for the day and gave the students helpful tips on how to produce an effective report. You can find our work here: [http://www.sphcs.co.uk/index.php?page=extra\\_curricular&select=BBC+School+News+Report](http://www.sphcs.co.uk/index.php?page=extra_curricular&select=BBC+School+News+Report)

### **RockinUrTeens**

10 girls from years 8 and 9 travelled to RBS Headquarters in the City of London to participate in a lively conference aimed at raising aspirations for future careers. The girls enjoyed hearing from and having the opportunity to meet journalists, a barrister, a female soccer coach and the Self-Esteem Team. The day was judged to be inspiring and great fun!

### **Discovering Democracy Award Ceremony**

We are very proud that we are one of only 60 schools in the country to have achieved this new award from the British Youth Council. The award celebrates our work with Student Voice and our participation in local Youth Councils. Molly Sivyer in year 11, a member of Arun Youth Council, visited the Houses of Parliament to collect the award and meet John Penrose, Minister of State for Constitutional Reform.

### **SPH Youth Councillors filmed for WSCC**

With thirteen students from different year groups being actively involved with WSCC and Arun Youth Councils, we were invited to take part in a film for the WSCC Your Space webpage, discussing "What is a Healthy Relationship?" You can see the students in action here: <http://yourspacewestsussex.me/2016/03/17/what-is-a-healthy-relationship/>

### **Too Much Sugar?**

Local author and campaigner, Claire White, gave a useful presentation to a group of parents about how to reduce our sugar intake. The information Claire provided led to lively discussion and sharing of ideas. Mrs Foster, who is the mother of a student in year 11, kindly provided a delicious range of sugar free cakes.

### **Work Experience**

Monday 7th March, and 149 Year 10 students were on their way to get a taste of the world of work for a week. The majority worked with local employers in a huge variety of placements from architecture, design and marketing to sports centres and schools, social care, engineering, accountancy, animal care, engineering and many more. Others went further afield, for example to Newcastle University and a TV production company in London.

Staff visited as many of the students as possible during the week. Students reported back that they had gained in confidence and developed new skills. They had confirmed their interest in particular careers or discovered new possibilities and learnt a great deal about the world of work, not least that it is more tiring than being at school!

Huge thanks are due to those employers who support us in providing placements. I never underestimate the extra time and effort involved in preparing for and supervising a student for a week. However, the majority had obviously enjoyed hosting our students, commenting on their work ethic, their social skills and how much they were a credit to the school and of course their parents.

Mrs Wallbridge, Co-ordinator of Vocational Education

### Deanery Enrichment Day in Arundel

A beautiful day dawned on 17th March, and the sun shone on us as our four Deanery Schools made their way to Arundel for their enrichment day. Six representatives from each school took part in the day, reflecting on the Year of Mercy and taking the opportunity to visit the Holy Door that was opened at Arundel Cathedral in December. We were lucky enough to spend some time with one of the wonderful Cathedral Tour Guides, Hilary, who taught us all about how the Cathedral lives out the works of mercy in the world, and helped us to reflect on and prepare presentations on those important works to round off the day together. It was a great day, and the work produced by all the students was really thoughtful. It's since been put together into a display that will be visiting all the schools over the coming weeks: it's currently available to see on the stage in the Hall at SPH.

### SPH students perform in Seussical Jr at Barnham Community Hall

On 25 and 26 June Knightstar Productions are performing Seussical Jr at Barnham Community Hall. We wish cast members Owen Clayton (7Ed), Lily Flinders (8Ed) and Sophie North (8Ed) the best of luck with their performances. Amy Clayton (11Cu) has helped with rehearsals and set designing. Also involved is co-owner Abi Vinter, one of our Admin Team at SPH. Cost of tickets and time of performances can be found on their website: [www.knightstarproductions.com](http://www.knightstarproductions.com).



### Forthcoming Dates for your Diary:

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| 11 April – Inset – open to some exam groups, as requested by staff | 5 July – Y6 Induction evening |
| 12 April – Start of term   | 6 July – Y6 Induction day     |
| 2 May – May Day Bank Holiday                                       | 11 July – Y7 Presentation     |
| 6 May – Y8 girls' HPV jabs/Y11 meningitis                          | 13 July – Y9 Presentation     |
| 19 May – 5pm Y7 Parents' Evening                                   | 14 July – Y10 Presentation    |
| 30 May – 3 June – Half term  | 15 July – Sports day          |
| 17-24 June – Internal exams (Y7-10)                                | 18 July – Fundraising Day     |
| 27 June – 1 July – Y12 Work experience                             | 22 July – 12:40 End of term   |
| 29 June – Feast of Sts Peter and Paul                              |                               |