

**ST HILDA'S**  
CE HIGH SCHOOL

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## **Newsletter July 2017**

### **Welcome to the final newsletter of 2017!**

I cannot believe how quickly this year has gone. It is great to unlock the gates at 8a.m .every morning and welcome the students.

St Hilda's is a very special place to be. We are a family who work together to be the best we can.

### **SLIGHT CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL DAY**

I sent out a letter to inform parents of slight changes to the school day. Thank you for all of your feedback. The Governors met and ratified these changes on June 22nd to ensure the health and safety of our students, maximise the learning for students and to introduce a further opportunity to reflect and pray together. A reminder of the new school day is below. Please note that there are many extra-curricular clubs and activities throughout the school day and the week and a new timetable will be sent to you in September.

We are still opening for students from 8 a.m. and offer the breakfast service used by many of our students.

### **Proposed School Day**

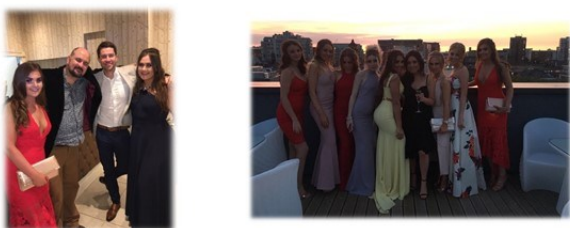
8.15	SLT briefing meeting
8.25	Staff briefings
8.35	Registration/assembly
8.50	Period 1
9.50	Period 2
10.50	Break
11.05	Period 3
12.05	Lunch
12.45	Period 4
1.45	Period 5
2.45	Reflection/prayer
2.50	School ends for students

## Goodbyes and Hello's

We said farewell to 2 wonderful year groups; Year 11 and Year 13. We have had 2 lovely goodbye services and 2 fabulous proms, where they all looked amazing. It is probably better to use the phrase 'au revoir' for so many of our students as we have record numbers of Year 11s returning to St Hilda's College in September to start their A Level studies and I am beginning to realise that St Hilda's students never leave really! They come back to visit and support us after Year 13.

### *Year 11 Prom 2017*

This year's prom took place at the Radisson Blu in Liverpool City Centre. To no surprise it was a well attended event and enjoyed by all. Our students looked amazing as you can see from some photos of the evening. We wish each and every one of our year 11s a relaxing and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing them on results day.



### *Year 13 Prom 2017*

Students celebrated their Prom in style at the beautiful Shankly Hotel on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

Each and every one of them looked absolutely stunning and we are all so very proud of them

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## New Year 7's September 2017

We are really excited to welcome our new Year 7 students in September. They enjoyed their induction day with us and lots of nerves were calmed down. Meeting the parents/carers on the same day for their meeting was lovely. We are proud of our school and seeing that you also felt the same and were really happy to have a place here was great! The 3-legged stool of school, student and parent needs us all to stay standing!

### STAFF GOODBYES AND HELLOS

As with all schools we say goodbye to some members of staff.

Mrs Costello, examinations officer, has worked here for 13 years.

Mrs Richards, school secretary, says goodbye to us after 18 years.

Mrs Spencer, Head of Cleaners, says goodbye to us after 20 years.

It is fair to say that these people have been like the very foundations of St Hilda's for so many years.

We are also saying goodbye to Mr Hughes, teacher of mathematics, who has been here for 4 years. He is starting his own business tutoring.

Ms Shaw, who has spent her NQT year with us as a teacher of chemistry. She is joining a new school.

We wish both of them every success in their new roles and know that they won't be strangers to us, even after they leave.

Madame Thornton will begin a new role in the school as a cover supervisor and leave her teaching post in the languages department after 21 years. We are really happy that she will be staying at St Hilda's!

We also wish James Kean success as he leaves us from his kitchen role to do a PGCE. James has been a great support in lessons too, volunteering to work with students as part of the SEND support.





We also welcome a number of new staff to St Hilda's. We invited them in to an induction day for new staff this week, once again to settle nerves about starting a new job and to meet with the departments.

NAME	DEPARTMENT
Ms Girvin	GEOGRAPHY
Mr Miller	MATHS
Ms Romat	MODERN LANGUAGES
Mr Dean	PE
Ms Rahman	RE
Mr Arrowsmith	SCIENCE

### ROLE CHANGES

Mrs Sunderland is Head of RE

Mrs Kaddour is Head of Worship

Ms McGhee is Head of House

Mr Washington is Head of House

There have been additions to the Senior Leadership Team as we welcome our new assistant headteachers to the team:





Mrs Cowdell – staffing training and professional development

Mrs Robinson – teaching and learning

Mr Martin – student leadership, rewards and celebration

### HOUSE SYSTEM

We reviewed our pastoral system and wanted to look at how we celebrate and reward the excellent behaviour, work and attendance of the vast majority of our students. One way we decided would allow us to do this and introduce healthy competition was through a house system. We asked students and staff for suggestions and, alongside Harry Potter ideas, we decided to name our 5 houses after people who had shaped Liverpool. 11 people were shortlisted and 11 members of staff championed a certain person in a whole-school assembly. All staff and students with the exception of me, had a vote. There were 5 clear winners:

HOUSE NAME/ HEAD OF HOUSE/ COLOUR OF HOUSE	HISTORY	IMAGE
<b>ASPINALL HOUSE</b>  <b>MR CUMMINGS</b>  <b>GREEN</b>	<p>The chairwoman of the Hillsborough Family Support Group, whose son James died in 1989. Margaret is an inspiration to us all. Even when it seemed like the whole of the establishment was against her and the families, they fought and they fought until they achieved justice. To suffer the loss that Margaret and the dozens of families did is the worst nightmare for any family but to then have to wait more than 20 years to clear the names of their loved ones who died is unimaginable. The whole country has seen how they have carried the fight with dignity, with a refusal to give up on the truth. She truly is a woman of achievement.</p>	
<b>BRODIE HOUSE</b>  <b>MS FLAVIN</b>  <b>BLUE</b>	<p>John Alexander Brodie was a Liverpool-based civil engineer who can lay claim to a number of crowning achievements. Credited for introducing Britain's first ring road, electric tram system and intercity highway, his finest achievement is arguably The Mersey Tunnel. He's also credited as introducing the first football net in 1889 - all of this from a man from Ullet Road – right on our doorstep!</p>	
<b>ROSCOE HOUSE</b>  <b>MS MCGHEE</b>  <b>YELLOW</b>	<p>William Roscoe was a Liverpool politician and a self-taught polymath! A historian, leading abolitionist, art collector, M.P., lawyer, banker, botanist and writer. He played a key role in the abolition of the Slave Trade. He is described as an inspiration that believed in equality for all, a voice for the voiceless. He also founded what is now Liverpool John Moore's University. And 2 of his descendants at St Hilda's are in his House!</p>	
<b>WALKER HOUSE</b>  <b>MR MARTIN</b>  <b>ORANGE</b>	<p>Gee Walker - When her son Anthony was brutally murdered in a vicious attack, the local community in Liverpool was united in anger. Gee found the courage to forgive his killers. She has since established a foundation to promote racial harmony and assist efforts to turn lives around in the community. At a time of tension in pockets of society, Gee offers her heartfelt and life-affirming message about forgiveness, recovery and above all, hope. Gee talks about the power of forgiveness, learning to cope with loss, and using the tragedy to make a positive difference. Gee's granddaughter is in Walker House!</p>	
<b>WILKINSON HOUSE</b>  <b>MR WASHINGTON</b>  <b>RED</b>	<p>Kitty Wilkinson spent much of her life in abject poverty, but that didn't stop her from devoting herself to improving the lives of those around her. When the cholera epidemic broke out in Liverpool in 1832, Kitty was convinced that cleanliness was the key to combating the outbreak. Kitty turned her small home into a wash-house. She allowed the people of Liverpool to come and clean their sheets and she taught them about the importance of cleanliness when fighting cholera. Kitty pushed for the development of a public bath where the poor could wash themselves and clean their clothes. In 2012, a marble statue of Kitty was unveiled in St. George's Hall and of the 12 statues honouring famous figures, Kitty is the only woman represented.</p>	

Students have already applied to be House Captains and interviews will take place on Monday. Our launch assemblies last week were really exciting. All students found out which house they are in. All members of staff are attached to a house apart from me. I need to remain impartial! St Hilda's College students are all affiliated to a house and will help to support and drive the house system forward. The friendly rivalry has already begun with points for houses being awarded to our Sports Day competitors!

We are issuing all of our students in current Years 7 – 10 with a new tie in house colours free of charge. These will be available towards the end of summer. Staff will have lanyards in their house colours so that all are easily identifiable as members of that particular house.

A separate letter has been sent explaining uniform and PE kit changes.

### **BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING – REWARDS AND CELEBRATIONS**

We have worked very hard with students and staff on reviewing our house point system and rewarding our students. Mrs O'Neill and Mr Martin are finalising a system of rewards and consequences and we will share this with you in September. Students and staff have been consulted and have come up with some great ideas! We believe that creating a culture of celebration and reward will enable us to really promote our new values and the achievements of our wonderful students.

### **SIAMS AND OUR VALUES**

We are very proud that the work we do in school and in liaison with you as parents/carers to develop our Christian ethos and we were delighted to be awarded OUTSTANDING across all 4 areas in our recent SIAMS inspection. The inspector commented on our decision to change our values in a SIAMS year and was very impressed that we took that bold decision and agreed fully with the changes. Our values shouldn't just be words we use in letters home or inspections, but how we live every day. We decided to use the Church of England values as they reflected who we want to be as a school. However, one of my proudest moments this year was when the students decided on our 5<sup>th</sup> value of equality. Having young people here who value equality and appreciate diversity is extremely heart-warming.

### **CATERING UPDATE**

We have reviewed the food that we are serving and the logistics of how we cater for our students. Queues were long and some students waited a long time to be served. We have changed the layout of the kitchen to ensure that food service is faster than it was. We have also added a satellite food servery which sells sandwiches, drinks, fruit etc. The students' feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. There is significantly less queuing and students are able to spend more time relaxing in between lessons. This is also the case at break times. We have also extended the indoor seating areas for students, which has also been very well received. Our plan is to extend the satellite food servery and serve hot food to students too.

# Term Dates 2017/2018

## **Autumn 2017**

Monday 4 September Inset Day

Tuesday 5 September Students return (8.35 am)

Monday 23 – Friday, 27 October Half Term

Thursday 21 December 2017 End of Term Early Finish

## **Spring 2018**

Monday 8 January Start of term for staff and students

Monday 12 - Friday, 16 February Half Term

Friday 23 March End of Term

## **Summer 2018**

Monday 9 April Start of term for staff and students

Monday 7 May May Day

Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June Half Term

Friday 20 July End of Term Early Finish

## **INSET Days 2017-2018**

Please note that school will be closed to students

Monday 4 September 2017

Friday 20 October 2017

Friday 24 November 2017

Monday 23 July 2018

Tuesday 24 July 2018

## **FRIENDS OF ST HILDA'S**

We already have a list of parents and staff wanting to contribute to the setting up of a group of people who fundraise for the school. The first meeting will be Thursday 14 September at 4 p.m. here at school. If you have any ideas about how we can strengthen the communication between school and home and raise money at the same time, please come along! Our first project will be to extend the Library and free-time space by purchasing a cover over the space and outdoor furniture! Be good to see you there.

Refreshments provided!

## **WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED?**

- A new personal development programme for all students delivered by form tutors for September 2017
- A new school day
- An Outstanding SIAMS judgement
- A new pastoral house system, focussing on rewards, celebrations and student leadership
- More student leadership opportunities, including 24 St Hilda's College Peer Mentors and an increasing number of Student Worship Leaders
- A new curriculum offer for Years 10 and 12
- A new programme of staff development
- More opportunities for parental feedback

## **Proverbs 3:21 - The Message Translation**

**\*These verses are most likely written by King Solomon, known for his great wisdom.**

**Dear friend, guard Clear Thinking and Common Sense with your life;  
don't for a minute lose sight of them.**

**They'll keep your soul alive and well,  
they'll keep you fit and attractive.**

**You'll travel safely,  
you'll neither tire nor trip.**

**You'll take afternoon naps without a worry,  
you'll enjoy a good night's sleep.**

**No need to panic over alarms or surprises,  
or predictions that the end is just around the corner,**

**Because God will be right there with you;  
he'll keep you safe and sound.**

**Stay safe over the summer and we look forward to welcoming all of our students back, fully refreshed and ready for the year ahead. Thank you to parents and carers. I look forward to working with you next year.**





It has been a really exciting year for St Hilda's. My first as headteacher and I have thoroughly enjoyed it. There have been some tough times for us as a school and lots of moments of great joy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you as parents and carers. Your support and kind words have meant so much over the past year. I am looking forward to our next academic year together and wish you all a happy, healthy and safe summer.

Mrs Code

At St Hilda's we are educating for:

Hope

Equality

Community

Wisdom

Dignity



Please scan to view our school website



For more information and regular updates please go to our website at:

[www.st-hildas.co.uk](http://www.st-hildas.co.uk)

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