Julia’s House Charity Fundraising

Many thanks to the Sixth Form pupils for organising the fundraiser. Between you we raised nearly £400 for Julia’s House. Julia’s House is a children’s Hospice who do tremendous work with families across Wiltshire and Dorset. If you would like to get involved visit www.juliashouse.org

Year 11 Mock Examinations

Year 11s have been ‘heads-down’ this week completing their GCSE Mock examinations. Well done to those who have been studying hard. Remember to revise little and often.

INSET DAY

Training days can be a mystery to many parents. A welcome day off for pupils, I trust they used this time wisely, but for teachers INSET days are valuable time for sharing and planning. This week we used the training and planning time in resourcing Key Stage 4 courses with study aids and resources. The pastoral team worked hard on the Academy wellbeing plan, planning support programmes for pupils. This will be published in the Summer, I am sure you will be impressed.

Local Governing Body News

The local governing body met in January and discussed a broad agenda including attendance, pupil welfare, pupil voice, the curriculum, teaching and learning and pupil progress. In the next meeting we will feedback following our excellent visit from Mr Hooper our school improvement advisor, and present our wellbeing plan for pupils and staff.
Parent Forum

Last week I met with the Parent Forum who were full of great ideas as usual. We discussed changes to written reports to parents to make them more helpful and how they work alongside Parents Evenings. From next year we will be implementing some new ideas to make parents events more accessible and useful. Watch this space.

The Bridge

In January The Bridge moved into their office space in the Academy. We have worked with The Bridge for many years. Their work with young people across Salisbury is fantastic. It is also great to have Mr Luft back in the building. Mr Luft joined the Bridge last year, we were sad to see him leave (even though he was an Aston Villa fan) but he is clearly enjoying his new role. For more information check out the website. www.the-bridge.org.uk

Introducing Mel. Mel is our Bridge worker who has been in the Academy regularly since September working with pupils.

Headteachers Commissioning Service

News Release from Magna Learning Partnership

Three Heads together as one!

Three Secondary Headteachers were commissioned by the Bishop of Salisbury at Sarum Academy last week. A service held in the Performance Hall, attended by staff, students, governors and families celebrated the commissioning of Headteachers Jonathan Curtis, of Sarum Academy, Nicola Bull of St Edmund’s Girls’ School and Andy Bazen from Wyvern College.

Executive Headteacher Sarah Busby explained the reason for the three way service:
“In Church Schools, every new Headteacher receives a commissioning service which takes place some time after they take up their role and signals the formal start to their commitment to leadership of a Church School. In Magna Learning Partnership, we appointed two new Headteachers in recent months and then also realised that the Commissioning Service at Sarum had not yet taken place for Headteacher Jonathan Curtis, who took up his permanent position last year. We approached the office of The Right Reverend Nicholas Holtem, Bishop of Salisbury, and were delighted when he agreed to lead the service for all three Headteachers together.”

The event included performances from the St Edmund’s Girls’ School Choir and it was attended by staff, students, governors and other representatives of all the schools in the Trust. Canon Joy Tubbs, Director of Education at Salisbury Diocese, presented each Headteacher with a Bible and the Bishop of Salisbury’s address focussed on the role of the school in the community and the difference that leadership through Christian values makes to the lives of children and young people.

Staying safe online– Sarahah mobile phone app

It has come to our attention that a number of pupils have been using an app called ‘Sarahah’ recently which lets users send and receive anonymous comments. Nationally this app is becoming known as a platform for online bullying with very nasty comments being made about individuals without them being able to trace the source. This app has caused a number of Sarum Academy pupils to become distressed recently as
hateful comments have been posted. Anyone can set up an account and pose as another person if they wish. Please take this opportunity to speak to your son or daughter about whether they have used this app and if they have been affected by any comments. They may want to consider not using this app in future. As Safeguarding Officer at the Academy I would like to point you towards the ‘Think You Know’ website which has brilliant guides for young people and parents about online abuse and safety: www.thinkyouknow.co.uk If your child has been affected by online bullying they can report this to CEOP www.ceop.police.uk

Mrs S Futcher – Safeguarding Officer

Post 16 - Sarum and Saints

Saints Foundation launched its brand new satellite site in September 2017 at Sarum Academy. This is a BTEC level 3 extended diploma in sport and performance, which combines football and education together. As the Southampton FC aligned charity, the Saints Foundation have a hugely successful education programme that has grown from 16 students in 2011 to over 150 students enrolled this year.

This is full time course that will give students the equivalent of three A-levels after two years of studying. The content of the course covers a wide variety of subjects through specific units, related mostly to football but also generalised Sport and Performance.

Need a little extra help? Teen Triple P Parenting Course

A course run by trained professionals who meet with a small group of parents of teenagers to share ideas (and struggles!) and offer some guidance for reducing conflict and building a more positive relationship with your teenager. If you would like to sign up for this course or would like more information, please contact Mrs Futcher at the Academy.

With football training each week plus competitive games, our unique programme offers first class coaching to improve your football performance as well as educating each student of tactical awareness. The programme incorporates two leagues; our own internal league plus an Elite team that play in the National Football Youth League against other professional clubs with similar programmes.

Whilst being on an education programme with us, we work hard to offer opportunities within the foundation and wider football club for work experience. We have days out at the clubs Staplewood Training Campus where the 1st team and academy are based. We offer tours of the facilities as well as training sessions, games and meet the player events. We also have tours of St Marys Stadium, opportunities for tickets to games
and have had playing on the pitch events for our students in the past.

Ben Kean is our BTEC Lecturer and Football Coach at Sarum. In a recent interview he was asked about his first six months with us and he had this to say.

“This was a job that I had been working hard towards for a couple of years and when I was successful I was over the moon with the amazing opportunity I was given. The reputation of the Saints Foundation was unprecedented and to be given the opportunity to work within the club was a huge honour and something I feel very proud to be doing. We are five months in to the BTEC Programme that is based at Sarum Academy and it’s already been a huge success with learners excelling both in the classroom and on the pitch.”

Callum Presswell is one of our students who joined us from another similar programme this year. He has made it into our Elite Satellite Team that play in the National Youth Football League against other professional clubs with these types of programmes. He said “Before I joined the Southampton course at Sarum, I was doing a similar course in the area but it didn’t quite live up to my expectations and wasn’t what I was looking for. What got my attention about the Southampton programme was how well organised and successful it has been in other areas and the standard of teaching and football that was on offer to me. Since joining the course I have had the opportunity to play in the elite side which plays in the National Youth U19 league and I have had the opportunity to play against teams like Crystal Palace, Chelsea, Reading and Brighton. The standard of football we play is the best I’ve ever played and gives me the opportunity to improve. Also Ben is a great teacher as he is a great motivator and is committed to helping us reach our best in either football or the education side of the course.”

For more information on the above programme please email Andrew Hunt at ahunt@saintsfc.co.uk or contact Mr Jones at Post16@sarumacademy.org