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SEPTEMBER 2011

Headteacher's Hello

It's good to be back!

Returning to St Clement Danes this term, after my summer term secondment as Head of Chancellor's School, has been wonderful, particularly as I have come back to be greeted by outstanding examination results yet again – our best ever.

I know I say this every year but the school's results this year, both in terms of attainment and value added, are the school's best. No mean feat when we have been improving year on year.

Congratulations to all the students, not only to those who achieved a string of A* and As but those for whom B and C grades are personal triumphs.

Each year I tell the students that if they work hard and do their best they will be successful. The school is fortunate to have such dedicated, hardworking and inspirational teachers and support staff. It is a fact that many students would not attain the grades they do at other schools. The 'Examination Results' section of this Homelink gives more detail.

During the autumn term Mr Butler will be acting Associate Head at Chancellor's School. The permanent Head has now been appointed and will take up the post in January 2012 when Mr Butler will return to St Clement Danes. In his absence this term Mrs Firth and Mrs Kay, both Heads of Faculty, have been seconded on to the Senior Leadership Team.

It was wonderful to welcome all the new students to the school this week. Year 7 are finding their way around and Year 12 and Year 13 look smart and business-like in their new 'Sixth Form Uniform'.

This term we welcome 18 new members of teaching and support staff. Staffing news is outlined in a later section of this Homelink.

Also included in this Homelink you will find other important information and details of the Information Evenings being held from Monday 12th September.

We have just published The Modern Dane, a free gift which will be distributed to all students at the end of this week. I would like to thank in particular Mr Tattle, Mr Williams and Mrs Moore for all their hard work in producing an excellent magazine.

The beginning of the academic year is always packed with events:-

Information Evenings, Speech Day, Open Evenings and School Closure for training. A number of these events have a significant impact to the start and finish times and the attendance of different year groups. The 'Forthcoming Events' section details the arrangements.

All students have been issued with a school calendar and a copy can also be viewed on the website (www.stclementdanes.org.uk).

From time to time we do have to make changes to the published calendar and these will be announced in the monthly Homelink and also posted on the website.

The monthly Homelink is published on the last Friday of each month (except April and July). It not only contains vital information about school events, but it features each month the work of different faculties throughout the year.

It is also the way in which we are able to celebrate student achievements and successes. Homelink will be emailed via Parentmail and published on the school website. Hard copies of Homelink are available for those families who do not receive Parentmail.

Josephine Valentine

Headteacher

Examination Results

I am delighted with this year's results and I congratulate the students on their achievements. Thank you to the teachers for their commitment and also you, the parents, for your support.

GCSE Results

The students attained 87% 5 A* - C grades with English and Maths, compared with 85% in 2010. This represents outstanding value added in terms of progress from Year 7.

AS and A Level Results

Both these sets of results are overall the school's best ever in terms of attainment (2010 results are in brackets).

At AS the average total UCAS points per student was 155 (152) with 46 (45) points per entry.

The % of A/B grades was 61% (57%).

At A Level the total UCAS points per student was 320 (301) and 98 (94) points per entry. This equates to an average result of 3 'Bs' at A Level for each student. The % A*-B grades at A Level was 65% (63%) and the % A* grades was 15% (9%). Congratulations to all.

Josephine Valentine

Headteacher

Premises Development

Yet again the Premises Team have been extremely busy co-ordinating the redecoration and refurbishment of the school.

The school buildings look immaculate. Long may it continue.

Five English classrooms have been refurbished and there is now a canopy outside the classrooms. This work has been made possible by a grant from the Department of Education and contributions from the Parents' Association. The on-going programme of replacing the flat roof has also taken place.

Parts of the Technology Department have been repainted and extra seating, provided by the Parents' Association, has been placed outside the Dining Room.

The ICT system has had a significant overhaul and upgrade this summer.

Josephine Valentine

Headteacher

Staffing News

We welcome the following staff to the school:-

Science	Mr Cumming, Head of Faculty
	Miss Dytham
MFL	Mrs Mitchell
	Mrs Hendrie (French Language Assistant)
	Mrs Grassick (German Language Assistant)
	Mrs Deng (Italian Language Assistant)
Geography	Mr Bond
	Miss Handy
PE	Miss Edwards, Assistant Head of Faculty
	Ms Simm
Technology	Mrs Kadlott
	Mrs Pattison (Food Technician)
Business Studies	Mr Anderson
Art	Ms Harkin
Drama	Mrs May
Religious Education	Miss Fisher
Learning Support	Miss Elgood
	Miss Humphreys

Forthcoming Events

Mon 12th September **Year 12 Information Eve**
7pm Barbirolli Hall

Tue 13th September **Year 10 & 11 Information Evening**
7pm Barbirolli Hall

Wed 14th September **Year 8 & 9 Information Evening**
7pm Barbirolli Hall

Each Information Evening will be held in the Barbirolli Hall and will start at 7pm. The areas to be covered include:

- Results
- Student Expectations
- Behaviour Management
- 150 celebrations

If you have more than one son or daughter in different year groups it is not necessary to attend more than one Information Evening as each will cover very similar areas. All the presentations will be made available for parents afterwards via parentmail/FROG (our Learning Platform).

Fri 16th September **Speech Day and Prize Giving**

Please note the following information regarding the above event:

Student Attendance - Year 7 do not attend school on this day as the Barbirolli Hall will not accommodate the numbers.

Junior Prize Giving Years 8 / 9 / 10

Student registration	10.00
Start of Prize Giving	10.30
End of Prize Giving	11.30
Buses depart	11.45

Senior Prize Giving Years 11 / 12 / 13 and Leavers

Student registration	14.00
Start of Prize Giving	14.30
End of Prize Giving	15.45
Buses depart	16.00

School Orchestra

Arrive at school	8.30
Depart	15.45

Additional Information

- All students in Years 8 to 11 should wear full school uniform
- Sixth Form students should wear appropriate dress for a formal event
- Lunch will be provided for the orchestra
- A revised bus timetable will be placed on the windows of the student entrance and students should also check with bus drivers for a schedule
- All prize winners will be contacted prior to the event
- School work will be set for Year 7 students

Any parents attending either AM or PM event should park their car on the school car park, with additional space available on the school field if this is full.

Mon 19th September **Year 13 Information Evening**
7pm Barbirolli Hall

Fri 23rd September **Year 7 Cheese and Wine**
7pm Barbirolli Hall.

The Year 7 Cheese & Wine is an informal evening for the parents of new students. It provides an opportunity for parents to meet the Form Tutors and other parents. Parents will also hear from the Senior Leadership Team and the Parents' Association about important forthcoming events and opportunities. In addition to this we will be arranging a Year 7 Information Evening to take place in the second half of this term.

Mon 3rd October **Open Evening**

The school is open for visitors between 3.30pm and 8.30pm and students will finish school at 12.30pm. This will allow the staff to set up the school. The buses have been rearranged to collect the students at this earlier time.

Tue 4th October **INSET- the school is closed for training**

Mon 24th to
Fri 28th October **Half term**

Internal Staffing Changes

In addition to Mrs Firth and Miss Kay joining the Senior Leadership Team, the following staffing changes have been made for the Autumn Term:-

Head of BITEV*	Mr Turner
i/c Applied Business	Mr Reid
i/c Business Studies	Miss Weetman
Head of Technology	Mrs Collins

* BITEV – Business IT Economics and Vocational

Mr Mepham has undertaken the duties of Head of Religious Education.

In addition to these changes there have also been changes to the Pastoral Structure:-

Head of Year 7	Mrs Carrington
Head of Key Stage 3	Mr Hudson
Head of Key Stage 4	Mrs Giles
Pastoral Leader (KS3 & 4)	Mr Brown

The Modern Dane has Arrived!!!

It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce the launch of the latest incarnation of the St. Clement Danes school magazine. It was nearly a year ago that Mr Williams and I began to think about re-establishing an annual publication at the school and the last twelve months have seen this plan grow into an exciting and dynamic project that has involved a wide cross-section of staff and students. The Modern Dane has arrived and is to be distributed to all students at the end of the first week of term. It is fitting that the magazine is coming out at the beginning of the school's important 150th anniversary year as we hope that it will become a memorable legacy for every student who attends the school. This edition is jam packed with articles from past and present students that are humorous, interesting, and informative – we've got prom photos, recipes, ghost stories, paintings, trip reviews, funny photos and lots more.



We trust that you will all enjoy reading what has become a showcase for many of the excellent activities and talented students that we have here at St. Clement Danes and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's edition. The magazine would not have succeeded without the hard work, enthusiasm and creativity of the staff and students at the school and its future depends on continued involvement. If you are a past or present student of St. Clement Danes and you would like to write articles, take pictures or make other creative contributions, then please let us know.

The contact email address for the magazine is: magazine@stclementdanes.herts.sch.uk

Mr T Tattle

English Faculty

Uniform

Nearly every student has returned to school in perfect uniform. There are one or two exceptions and we would be grateful for your support to ensure that in particular girls do not wear make up or jewellery and that skirts are an appropriate length (just above the knee).

Sixth Form students are wearing a new dress code and the majority look very smart in the new jumper/cardigan. All Sixth Formers are expected to follow the new dress code and are to have purchased the jumper or cardigan by Monday 19th September at the latest.

Accessibility for Visitors

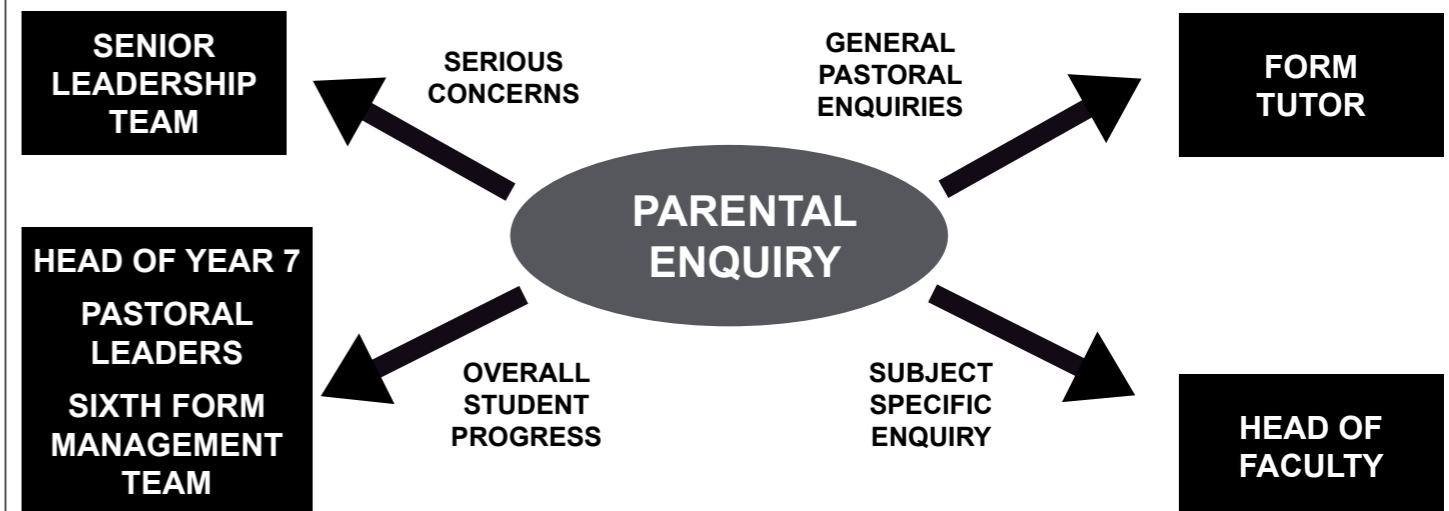
The school makes every effort to meet the needs of our visitors but due to historical design reasons the Sports Hall is not fully accessible to those with restricted mobility. All other parts of our buildings are accessible and dedicated parking is available near the main school reception.

Please let us know if you have restricted mobility and we will be pleased to help.

Communication

The school sends information to parents on a frequent basis via Parentmail, which uses e-mail to broadcast messages to parents. Using e-mail as the preferred method of communication has vastly improved the speed and reliability of communication from school to parents.

With regard to parents communicating with the school, the preferred methods of communication are by phone, letter or in a meeting. It is often difficult to know whom to approach when you have an enquiry and so we would request that you follow the guidance below.



Most commonly, communication is via telephone and often parents will speak to a member of the administrative staff in reception and then be asked to leave a voicemail message with the member of staff they wish to contact. These are the names of staff whom you may need to contact:

FORM/TUTOR

7A.....Mr C Land
7B.....Mrs V Fern
7C.....Ms J Edwards
7D.....Miss A Cort
7E.....Ms E Bennett
7L.....Miss S Jacobs
7S.....Mr D Williams
7T.....Mr T Tattle

9A.....Mr I Birkett
9B.....Mrs E Brown
9C.....Mrs S Savin
9D.....Ms A Bhalla
9E.....Mrs A Lewis
9L.....Miss C Burgin
9S.....Mr P Westhead
9T.....Ms S Holland

11A.....Mr J Reid
11B.....Mr P Evans
11C.....Mr P Jones
11D.....Mrs A Pickard/Mrs L Butler
11E.....Ms S Alger
11L.....Miss L Morby
11S.....Mrs R Beedell
11T.....Mr S Matondo

12COL.... Dr S Collier
12FIR..... Mrs A Quinton
12HAN.... Miss N Handley
12MEP.... Mr S Mepham
12MOT... Mrs S Turner/Mrs C Monk
12MRK... Mr C Marks
12RED.... Mrs D Reid
12RIG.... Mrs C Rigby

8A.....Mr N Cumming
8B.....Mr A Laverty
8C.....Mr A Assaye
8D.....Miss H Plummer
8E.....Mrs S Kirby
8L.....Mrs I Howe
8S.....Miss A Weetman
8T.....Miss A Nicholson

10A.....Mrs V Chatt
10B.....Mrs L Bhimani
10C.....Mr B Disley
10D.....Miss A Ryan
10E.....Miss N Buss
10L.....Mr M Chapman
10S.....Mr D Burrows
10T.....Mrs S Collins

A = Clare	B = Burleigh
C = Clement	D = Dane
E = Exeter	L = Lincoln
S = Essex	T = Temple

13BAM.... Mrs C Bier-Allen/M. Scott
13CLK.... Mr A Perkins
13DOW ... Mr A Dow
13FITZ.... Miss A Fitzpatrick
13MAC.... Mrs C McKenzie
13PIN Mr P Harrison
13STV Miss A Stevens
13TUR Mr J Turner

The school would request that parents only telephone the administrative staff in reception to leave a message for their child in an emergency. With over 1300 students it is not possible for administrative staff to deliver messages to individual students. Students are allowed to turn their mobile phones on at break and lunch time and so will be able to receive messages from their parents during the course of the school day.

HEADS OF FACULTY

Mrs A Pickard	Head of English
Mrs S Savin	Head of Maths
Mr N Cumming	Head of Science
Mrs S Collins	Head of Technology (Autumn Term only)
Mr P Jones	Head of MFL
Mrs E Brown	Head of Humanities
Mr J Turner	Head of BITEV* (Autumn Term only)
Mr C Marks	Head of Creative & Expressive Arts
Mr I Birkett	Head of PE

* Business, Economics, ICT and Vocational Education

PASTORAL TEAM

Mrs J Carrington	Head of Year 7
Mr J Hudson	Head of KS3
Mrs R Giles	Head of KS4
Mr G Brown	Pastoral Leader
Mr M Garvey	Director of Sixth Form
Mrs L Hawkins	Assistant Director of Sixth Form
Mrs L Walsh	Student Services KS3/4
Ms A Hrkalovic	Student Services KS5

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dr J Valentine	Headteacher
Mr G Butler	Deputy Headteacher (Returning Spring Term)
Mrs J Pullen	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs A Pickford	Business Manager
Mr M Garvey	Director of Sixth Form Studies
Mr P Hampson	Assistant Headteacher
Dr R Johnson	Assistant Headteacher
Mr S Thompson	Assistant Headteacher
Mrs D Firth	Acting Assistant Headteacher (Autum Term only)
Miss N Kay	Acting Assistant Headteacher (Autum Term only)

The school's expectation is that the vast majority of communication will be directed towards Form Tutors, Heads of Faculty, the Head of Year 7, Pastoral Leader, Head of KS 3 & 4 and the Sixth Form Management Team as appropriate.

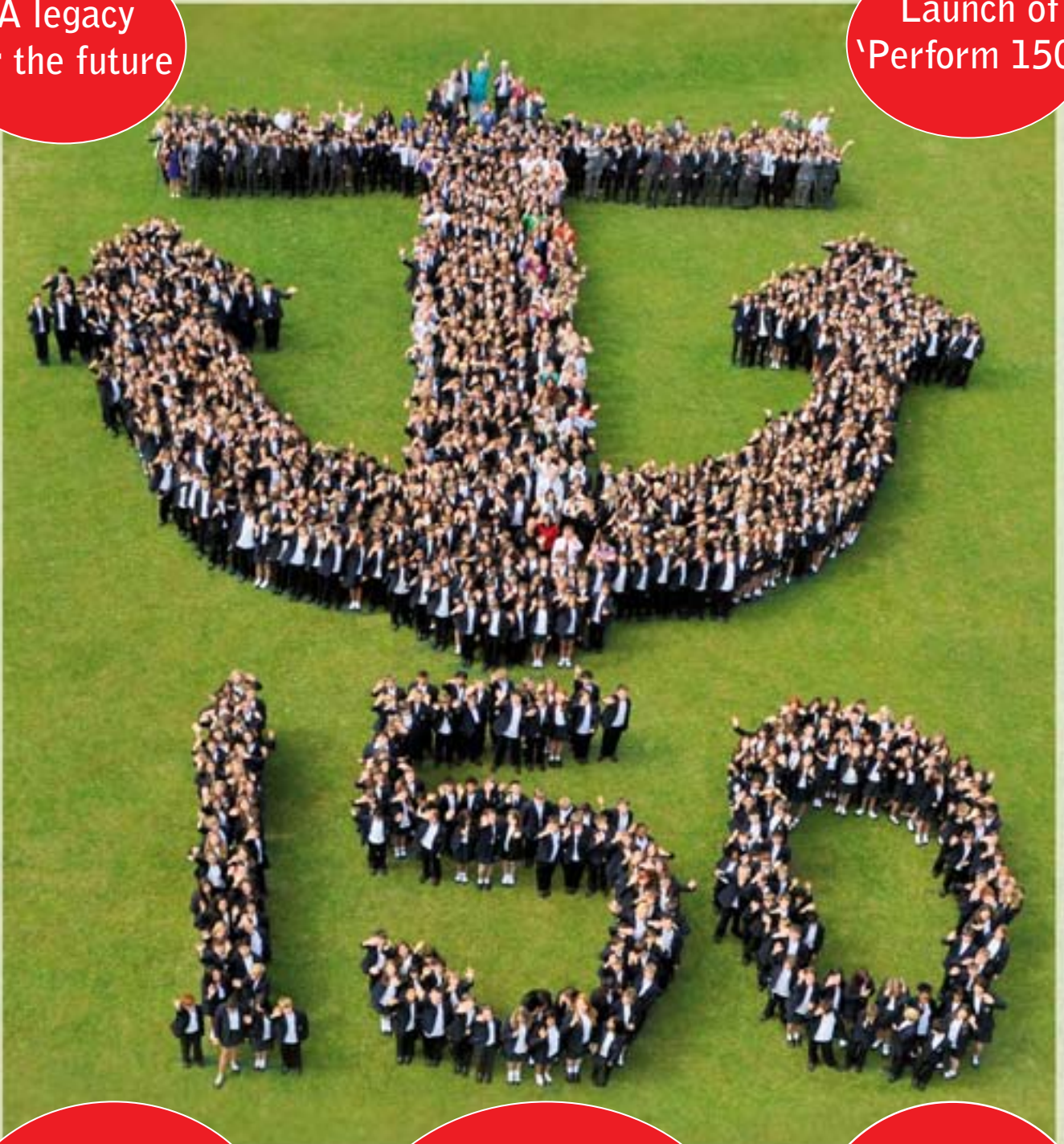
Once an enquiry has been received, the member of staff will contact you within two working days to acknowledge that they have received the enquiry and should the matter require information to be gathered and collated, this will be completed and reported to you within eight working days in most cases. Often enquiries are straight forward to address and are completed well within the eight day period.

150TH CELEBRATION

1862 TO 2012

A legacy
for the future

Launch of
'Perform 150'



Fundraising
for a new Arts Centre
to mark the occasion
– we need to raise
£1.5million!

Celebrate the past!
We are organising
planned reunions for Old
Danes and a Service of
Remembrance in Ypres
in June 2012

A celebration
for the current
students

We will be publishing more details shortly on all the events we have planned for our 2012 celebrations.