

27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parent Carers,

**Weekly Update: 27/10/23**

I hope this update finds you well. Well done to all students, families and staff – we've completed the first half term and are ready for a well-deserved break!

**Monster Mini Marathon and Halloween Craft Afternoon**

It was great to see so many of you in school on Wednesday as we held our Monster Mini Marathon and Halloween Craft afternoon. Students, staff and Herman the Tortoise all went the extra mile to dress up! As Principal, it makes me so happy to see students taking part in activities with their Parent Carers, and the feedback from families has been that they value the insight into their child's school life.

Thank you to the Parent Carers who have helped us to raise money for the Student Council through the Monster Mini Marathon – we are on target to beat last year's amount raised of £1,700. Incredible! Thanks also to the staff team, in particular Terrie Mozley, who expertly planned the day. Terrie and the team worked hard to make a memorable day for the students, and I hope that you enjoyed it too, if you were able to take part.

Here is a selection of images from the day...



Sabrina Hobbs **Principal**

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### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Congratulations to the students at Horizons 6<sup>th</sup> Form for hosting two incredibly successful Macmillan Coffee Mornings! Over £330 has been raised by our enterprising, creative and professional young people. They have meticulously planned and enthusiastically executed this project, working as an ambitious and supportive team throughout. As a staff group, we have been immensely impressed by the confidence and hard work they have shown. They have used their talents and taken the opportunity to develop their skills. From Year 12 students Nicholas and Louisa greeting people at the door to Phillip, also in Year 12, playing the piano, the community was suitably impressed. Alex and Liam's Barista coffee and Hamza's customer service created a real buzz and a warm, generous atmosphere. Every student involved worked tirelessly to make the event a success, they have made a great contribution to a very worthy charity. Well done and thank you everyone.



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### **Recruitment**

We have been very busy expanding our staff team and are pleased to let you know that we will soon be joined by 5 new Classroom Assistants, 2 Learning Mentors, 1 Teaching Assistant and 1 Teacher. We have worked hard to recruit to help meet the needs of our students.

One of our new Classroom Assistants is Billy Ellerington, a St Martins student in Year 14, who is currently working at school as an intern. Congratulations to Billy on this achievement!

### **Congratulations**

We are delighted to tell you that Nicole Cottrell, one of our Learning Mentors, welcomed a new addition to her family yesterday, a baby boy! We wish Nicole and her family the very best and can't wait to meet him.

Thank you for your support over the last half term. Working in a home-school partnership with families makes a fantastic difference to our students' outcomes and maximises opportunities for progress.

I look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Wishing you a restful half term,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sabrina Hobbs', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Sabrina Hobbs**  
**Principal**

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## **Term Dates for Academic Year 2023/2024**

### **Autumn Term**

INSET Day – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

School Starts for the new Academic Year – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

School Starts Back – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### **Spring Term**

School Starts Back – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

School Breaks up for Half Term – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February

INSET Day – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

School Starts Back – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

School Breaks up for Easter – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### **Summer Term**

INSET Day – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

School Starts Back – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

School Breaks up for Half Term - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

School Starts Back – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

INSET Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July

School Breaks up for Summer – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

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