



## Headteacher's Blog

Dear parents and carers

As you will read below, we are looking forward to our annual Open Evening on Wednesday 25 September. This is when we invite pupils in Year 6, their parents and carers to visit the school as they make the important decision about which high school to apply for. It will undoubtedly be a busy and exciting evening.

When I spoke to the staff at the start of term, I said my first priority was to 'create a safe, secure and stimulating environment for all.' Over the past few days, I have led assemblies for all students about how to keep safe when they travel. I have, for example, reminded them about wearing seatbelts in cars, cycling with care and being alert to dangers when they are on foot. Please talk to your children about this when you have a spare moment.

On that note, I would ask car drivers to exercise care when dropping off or collecting children. We have received several complaints this week from local residents, parents and members of the public about inconsiderate and dangerous parking near the school.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing weekend.

Peter Whear  
Executive Headteacher

Word of the Week:

**Quixotic:** unrealistically optimistic

## Diary Dates for this Month

<b>Monday 23rd</b>	U15 Boys' Football (pick up from SHS 5.30-6.00pm)	Selected students	Castle Manor
<b>Tuesday 24th</b>	U15 Boys' Football (pick up from SHS 5.30-6.00pm)	Selected students	Samuel Ward
<b>Wednesday 25th</b>	U12/13 Football v Felixstowe (KO 2.30pm; approx. finish 3.40pm)	Selected students	Home
	Open Evening 6.00 - 8.15pm	Year 6 pupils and families	Whole school
<b>Thursday 26th</b>	U12 Netball (pick up from SHS 6.00pm)	Selected students	Stour Valley

## Diary Dates for October

<b>Wednesday 2nd</b>	Y12 Tutors' Evening, 4.00 - 7.00pm	Year 12 parents, carers and students	
<b>Wednesday 9th</b>	Y7 Tutors' Evening 4.00 -7.00pm	Year 7 parent, carers and students	
<b>Thursday 10th</b>	Suffolk Schools' Cross Country	Selected students	Royal Hospital School Ipswich
<b>Wednesday 16th</b>	Suffolk Skills Show	Year 9 students	
	6th form trip to London	Sixth Form students	
<b>Friday 18th</b>	Individual Student Photos	Whole school	
<b>Wednesday 30th</b>	Post-16 Options Afternoon	Year 11 parents, carers and students	

### Contact Details:

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Headteacher: Ms Wendy Baster

Chair of Governors: Mrs Karen Hudson

## Information and Updates

### Year 7 Reading Programme

We are currently taking part in the BookTrust's *Bookbuzz Reading Programme* which aims to get children excited about reading. Yr 7 students have been given the opportunity to choose their own book to keep, free of charge, as we believe reading for pleasure is extremely important. They should receive their chosen book by October half-term.

Please note the following tips on how to encourage your child to read more:

- Get talking! The easiest way to get involved is to talk to your child about books and reading. Their *Bookbuzz* book is a great place to start. Why did they choose their book? Are they enjoying it? Talking about books together highlights the value of reading and will encourage your child to form and share their opinions on what they read.
- Make it fun! Reading should be a fun and social activity. You can find lots of activities on the *Bookbuzz* website to share and enjoy with your child, including videos and blogs from authors, quizzes and competitions. Just visit: [booktrust.org.uk/bookbuzz](http://booktrust.org.uk/bookbuzz).
- What next? Finishing their *Bookbuzz* book should be the start of the adventure for your child, not the end! No matter what their interests, there are thousands of fantastic books available to discover and capture their imagination.

Mrs Burns, School Librarian

### Second Hand Uniform

Parents and carers may not be aware that we have a range of good quality, second hand uniform which can be acquired for a small donation. Please ask at Reception if you wish to view the items available or if you have any items you wish to donate. Our Reception is open from 8.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

### Lost Property

Unfortunately, we have recently had to recycle or dispose of a large amount of unclaimed lost property due to the fact that items were unnamed. When lost property is found it is handed to our Reception team who log items and attempt to reunite them with their owners.

No one wishes to lose expensive school uniform and equipment so PLEASE ensure that items are clearly labelled.

Thank you