

Monday 11 September



As we start the first week of the Autumn term, there certainly seems a shift to an autumnal air. Students started last week, we vigour and enthusiasm and we were delighted that Reverend Susan Bates led us in prayer on Friday morning in our first whole school assembly of the year. In these services we consider what values are at the heart of our Christian community and how we can help each other in the year ahead.

On Thursday evening this week we welcome our Year 10 parents and carers to our information evening as they start their GCSE studies. During the evening we will consider what we can all do to help students be successful in the next two years, considering both their holistic well-being and their academic study. The talk will start in the main school hall at 7.00, refreshments will be available from 6.30.

All Year 7 students will this week take a walk to our parish church of St Mary Magdalene, Debenham. This will take place during their RE lessons. Let's hope the weather holds, but students should bring a coat to wear for the walk down just in case conditions are less than clement.

Year 11 Art students will visit London on Wednesday, a trip which form part of their core studies in their GCSE.

Finally on Friday all students will have individual and form group photographs. These will take place during the course of the day.

To end I share with you with the two readings from our Friday service, along with our blessings for all those connected with the school for the year ahead.

Ephesians Chapter 3, verse 14 to 21

A reading from a letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

This then is what I pray, kneeling before the Father:

In the abundance of his glory may he, through his Spirit, enable your inner selves to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, with all God's holy people you will have the strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth: so that, knowing the love of Christ, you may be filled with the utter fullness of God.

Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or image; glory be to him.

Mark Chapter 4, Verse 35 to 41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

With the coming of evening that same day, Jesus said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped.

But Jesus was in the stern, his head on a cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, "Master do you not care? We are going down!" And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Quiet now! Be calm!" And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, "Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?"

Julia Upton