

Monday 7 September



It was super to see all our students for their first day back on Friday. Our new Year 7 students made a fabulous first impression and in our whole school assembly in the morning it was super to be able to connect with the whole school and welcome them back to the new academic year. After sharing some thoughts for our community Reverend Bates led the blessing for the new school year.

A prayer for students - and staff

I pray this year that you may have the courage and resilience to face challenges.

I pray that you will learn lots - about this beautiful world and about your own beautiful selves.

I pray that you will work hard and laugh a lot - that you will be kind and that your friendships will be good.

I pray that you will know just how important you are to this school and just how much you are loved - especially by God.

*And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you this day and in the year ahead.
Amen.*

This week we start the first of a number of introductory evenings at the start of term, with Year 10 parents and carers. Our Introduction to Year 10 will start at 7.00pm and last around an hour. There will be refreshments available for arrivals from 6.30pm.

On Friday our new team of Year 9 Peer Mentors will undergo their training in order to be able to support younger students in the school. Having been selected from an application process and interview we are delighted with how many students want to give back to the community in this way.

Congratulations to all our students who received their GCSE results in the summer. We are truly proud of their achievements, which represent five years of hard work and enthusiasm for learning. These young people leave us not just with academic qualifications that will open the doors to the next stage of their education, but equally as importantly, as well-rounded young people who will contribute positively to society, thanks to their engagement in the classroom and activities beyond.

On initial results published we look to be the highest achieving state school in East Anglia, for achievement at headline figures at Grade 4+ and Grade 5+.

88% of students achieved Grade 4+ in English and Mathematics

76% of students achieved Grade 5+ in English and Mathematics

38% of all grades achieved by students were Grade 7 to 9 or A*/A

Over a fifth of all grades achieved in the new, tougher GCSEs were Grade 8 or 9

We were pleased with the results of all our students. Our highest performers were:

Jake Phillips: 10 Grade 9, 1 Grade A*, 1 Grade A

Helena Hines: 8 Grade 9, 3 Grade 8, 1 Grade A*

Morgan Manly: 7 Grade 9, 3 Grade 8, 1 Grade A*

Isaac Bachu: 7 Grade 9, 3 Grade 7, 1 Grade 6

Leigh Dennis: 5 Grade 9, 6 Grade 8, 1 Grade A*,

Rory Coe: 5 Grade 9, 1 Grade A*, 2 Grade 8, 1 Grade 7

William Chapman: 5 Grade 9, 5 Grade 8, 1 Grade A*

Tom Potter: 4 Grade 9, 1 Grade A*, 5 Grade 8, 1 Grade 7

Zinnia Smart: 2 Grade 9, 6 Grade 8, 2 Grade 7, 1 Grade 6

Nerys Feeney-Howells: 3 Grade 9, 4 Grade 8, 4 Grade 7, 1 Grade 6

With completely new courses in almost all subjects, comparison to previous years' performances is impossible and progress harder to measure but congratulations to the following students who, using historic measures, made the most academic progress from their starting point in Year 7, some achieving the equivalent of more than two grades better in every subject that their starting point might have predicted:

Eugenie Clarke

Tom Potter

Anna Mowles

Megan Jack

Holly Mayhew

Zac Carroll-Chambers

Anna Moore

Naomi Glasse

Julia Upton