Monday 15 July

Thank you to Dr Barbara Gale, CEO of St Nicholas Hospice, who spoke with such warmth and presence at our Summer Awards Evening last week. I know that her words touched the hearts and minds of all present.

In this, our last week of normal lessons, students will continue to learn and apply their knowledge. On Friday, Year 7 go on their Bushcraft, teambuilding day, Year 8 take part in the Curriculum day and Year 9 Enterprise Day. These range of activities are all aimed at building a range of skills that employers seek such as teamwork, time-keeping, resilience, leadership and creativity.

Year 10 students finished their last day in school before the holiday on Friday, and we wish them well on their Work Experience this week, an important part of the broad curriculum. Alongside Work Experience students will be heading off on study trips for History, RE and Geography, Berlin, Munich and the Azores this year's destinations.

On Friday we gave students copies of our last half-termly newsletter for the year. Please extract this from their bags and see what we have been up to. Failing that please click **here** to see this and all previous editions.

This week students will also receive a copy of our Summer Reading List. We know that encouraging students to read for pleasure is such an important part of their development. Alongside the obvious literacy benefits, losing yourself in a good book is good for our well-being, fiction especially, helping us to connect to the world around us, building empathy and understanding. This year's list has been complied by students, for students. I am sure that there is something for everyone.

Julia Upton