



Year 8 End of Term Update

Dear Parents

As we approach the end of the academic year, we wanted to get in touch to update you after an action-packed Summer Term.

Lakeside Residential

In the heart of the Lake District historic, Year 8 enjoyed a multitude of adventure activities such as raft building, archery and rock climbing. This gave the students the opportunity to display their leadership skills, teamwork, resilience and passion. School staff were told several times by instructors how impressed they were by the pupils' behaviour around the site and during activities.

Sports Evening

On Thursday 3 July, we enjoyed our annual Sports Evening. Sports Evening is an eagerly anticipated event that brings together the entire school community to celebrate athleticism, teamwork, and healthy competition. It serves as a platform for students to showcase their sporting talents and engage in friendly rivalry.

There were many examples of camaraderie among students creating a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere. Congratulations to Southgate for winning overall.

We would like to congratulate and thank all pupils who put themselves forward to participate in Sports Evening.

Summer Concert

On Thursday 10 July it was wonderful to see so many students from across the year groups showcasing the wealth of talent we have at STRS. It was pleasing to see several old Richian's and members of our school community come along to perform or watch the concert.

The concert included a wide range of music from the String Group, Jazz Band, Brass Group, Wind Band, Orchestra, Choir and Chamber Choir.

Highlights included Jaithra Nandan Thota who sang the solo in 'A Million Dreams' following winning the cricket county club earlier in the day for the school.

Tommy's Award

Pupils in Year 8 have now completed their second year participating in the Tommy's Award; there were over 30 successful participants achieving the Silver Award. Pupils will be awarded with their badges and certificates in an assembly on Monday 14 July. The Tommy's Award is unique to our school and recognises pupil achievements in areas which go beyond the classroom, such as leadership, service to the School, creativity and participation in extracurricular activities. Although some pupils may not have achieved Tommy's Award Silver this academic year, it does not take away from the impressive achievements of so many members of Year 8. In Year 9 all pupils restart the process for Tommy's Award Gold.

Wellbeing

Whilst we hope that your child will enjoy the long summer break, we would like to remind you that support for their wellbeing remains available should it be required during the holidays. Please find below the contact details for Talk Well (formerly TIC+) and the Young Minds Matter (YMM) team who will be available to offer confidential advice and support:

- Talk Well - [Talk Well | Free counselling and support for 9-25 year olds](#)
- YMM chat - 07480 635723

Please see issue 4 of our Mental Health and Wellbeing newsletter, which gives parents information about how encouraging their child to keep active has wide-reaching positive effects on mental wellbeing, as well as a safeguarding bitesize regarding nudes and semi-nude images. This edition features links to services such as ChildLine, road peace and victim support. Please click here to access the newsletter: [Online Flipbook](#)

Last Day of Term and Coaches

Please find below a summary of the timings for the last day of term (Thursday):

8.30am – Registration

9.00am – 12.25pm - Normal lessons periods 1-3

12.30pm – Registration / Form Time

12.45pm – Pupils Depart

The information on bus departure times for Thursday 17 July are also listed below:

12.55pm - KB Swindon x 2 and KB Bristol

1.00pm - Marchants M11/12/13/14

1.05pm - Cross Street Swindon

1.05pm - Newent Community

3.20pm - Bennetts (DR1 – DR4) wait in C1, Bennetts (DR5 – DR8) wait in C2

September 2025

Looking ahead to September, a reminder that your child's first day of the Autumn term will be Thursday 4 September.

Your child's Head of Year next year will be Mr O'Neil, supported by Mr Daniell (Assistant Headteacher i/c Key Stages 3 and 4) and Miss Tapscott (Deputy Headteacher).

The form tutors for Year 9 in 2025-2026 are also listed below:

9S Mr Moore and Mr Jobson – F7 – (Northgate)

9T Mrs Downes – B3 – (Southgate)

9R Mr Jones-Parry – F2 – (Eastgate)

9B Mrs Violet and Mrs Brown – G9 – (Westgate)

9C Mr Deacon – Q7 – (Newgate)

Your son's timetable for next academic year will be issued on the first day in September, when it will also be available for you to view on Parent Gateway.

It just leaves us to say that we hope that you and your child have a relaxing, safe, and enjoyable summer holiday.

Best wishes

Mrs Chloe Rigby-Smith (Head of Year 8)

Mr Peter Daniell (Assistant Headteacher – Head of Key Stages 3 and 4)

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