

Monday 24 April 2017



I start this week with some terrific sports results. Firstly, our Under 16 Boys Football team were victorious in the Semi-Final of the County Cup last Thursday, beating King Edward VI School in a thrilling game. This means we now play Northgate High School in the final on Friday 5 May at Needham Market Football Club, a 6.00p.m. kick-off. Please do join us for the final and support a super team. Our Year 7 and 9 teams also reached the Semi-Finals and played in their games last week. Year 7 were narrowly beaten and Year 9 faced a very accomplished side and sadly also lost. When most teams left in the competition at this stage come from much bigger schools, with more students from whom to select, progressing this far is a super achievement.

Our second congratulations goes to Tilly Aldis in Year 8, who given her standing in regional events, was invited to compete in the Mini London Marathon at the weekend. Tilly finished 4<sup>th</sup> – amazing!

This week Year 7 students experience their first formal examination week. The intention of these formal synoptic assessments is that students learn the skills of preparing for slightly longer assessments, which cover a wider variety of topics. They also experience the challenges of having a number of examinations close together and hence preparing for more than one examination at a time. For a timetable of the examinations this week please **click here**.

Also this week, we wish good luck to the students in Year 7 and 8 who are taking part in the Junior Mathematics Challenge. This national competition has seen much success for the school in recent years, with students achieving in the top 10% in the country and going on to international rounds, subsequent to this first school stage of the competition. You may have seen Jake Phillips, Year 10, in the last Aspire who has been invited to a Mathematics summer camp as a result of his success in these competitions.

Finally, let me share the prayer that I led in assemblies last week, as we start a new term.

*Creator God,*

*Because of your abundant love*

*you chose to bring light and order into the formless void,*

*to create a world of unsurpassed beauty*

*and you saw that it was good.*

*We ask that you continue to recreate the world*

*with that same attentive love,*

*to bring light into today's ever increasing chaos and darkness where we have failed to be stewards and*

*carers of your creation. Replenish our hearts*

*so that we too can renew the face of the earth.*

*Amen.*

Julia Upton