

Principal's Bulletin, Summer 2019

Dear Parent/ Carer

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of another academic year, our second in our new home and we are becoming even closer to our first anniversary of joining the Thinking Schools Academy Trust (TSAT) family.

As a school, we continue in our drive to 'transform life chances' and believe in a cognitive approach to education, so that every young person in our community has the best opportunity at life regardless of their individual circumstances. The vehicle to deliver this is through our BEST agenda implemented last year. From September, I am delighted that we will be launching our BEST Awards and Rewards initiative. There has been a slight change in the branding of BEST as displayed below.

B = Brilliance	Students will be supported to be brilliant in everything they do
E = Enrichment	Students will encounter a variety of educational opportunities outside of the classroom
S = Society	Students will be encouraged to develop as responsible, active and informed world citizens, demonstrating mutual respect, empathy and community spirit
T = Thinking	students will join a global community of thinkers

Goodwin is getting the well-deserved reputation as a student centred school giving young people the very BEST opportunities and helping students to achieve the BEST outcomes. As a result, I am delighted that we will be welcoming 180 year 7 students to the school in September.

This is only possible because of the whole school 'team' approach and I sincerely thank my staff, our parents and our fantastic Students for the commitment shown this year.

Students have been involved in many trips, visits and enrichment activities this year, some highlights include:

Parliament Trip – 30 students from across Years 8, 9 and 10 have been working with Save the Children focusing on the British International Aid Budget. From the initial group, 7 students were chosen to visit Parliament and present their ideas and pose questions to MP's. Our students talked with Preet Gill (Shadow Secretary for International Development), Lord Bates and Lord McConnell. The day ended with a Q and A session with Rory Stewart where students posed questions regarding climate, education, health care and equality issues.



BE YOUR BEST

www.goodwinacademy.org.uk

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Royal Society of Biology Challenge - students from Years 9 and 10 took part in the Biology Challenge from the Royal Society of Biology. This year, over 47,000 students from 530 schools worldwide participated. We are proud to announce that three of our students were recognised for their performance. Congratulations to:

- Year 9 - Sam Smith (Gold Award – top 5% of participants)
- Year 9 - Christopher Muir (Bronze Award – top 15% of participants)
- Year 10 - Katy Bilsland (Bronze Award)

Deal Festival - for two weeks in July, Goodwin Academy came alive with music and Dance from professionals, Youth Groups and our own talented students! It was all part of the Deal festival, where students were introduced to live music and the arts. Year 8 enjoyed a Brass Concert featuring songs from West Side Story and watched professional dancers from Laban perform. Year 7 listened to "Jazz Journey" - a group of local school aged musicians who meet regularly and they were treated to music from ambassadors from the National Youth Jazz Orchestra. To end the festival dance students from Year 8 performed with a live orchestra at Deal Castle as part of "Bach to the Future". An amazing couple of weeks!



Headstart - mental health, especially in teenagers is a growing concern and Goodwin Academy has been given the opportunity to work with Headstart Kent. Headstart is a lottery funded group who not only offer support to schools in supporting mental health wellbeing, but also provides training to staff and students to become mental health first aiders. Alongside the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors the JLT (Student Voice Committee) will be setting a 'safe space' for students. The student 'Mental Health First Aiders' will take the lead on delivering assemblies, manning the safe space and organising awareness days. For more information please visit: <https://www.headstartkent.org.uk/>



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors - Essex is not a stones throw away from Deal, but 9 students from Goodwin felt that the journey was worth making to become anti-bullying ambassadors as part of the Diana Award Foundation. The day consisted of Goodwin students working alongside pupils from a range of other schools in gaining an understanding of the impact of bullying, as well as how to support victims of bullying. The team have set about locating a quiet room in the school where individuals can go and have some down time. The school is going to be launching an anti-bullying campaign to inform students of how to stand up to bullies and educate students about support networks.

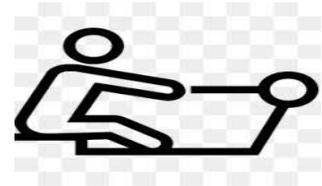
Tryangle Awards - Cody Jennings from Year 12 has been nominated for a Tryangle Award for her contribution to the Arts both in and out of school. She has now been put forward to the next round where she may become a finalist for the area. Good Luck Cody!



French Residential Trip - this year Goodwin ventured further afield for its annual residential. During the May half-term, 32 students travelled with Mr Brady, Miss Paige, Miss Dore and Mr Dixon to the Dordogne for 9 days of adventurous activities. The group took part in kayaking, sailing, canoeing, climbing and high ropes to name just a few activities, many students overcoming their fears that ranged from heights to simply being away from home. On leaving, many of the students did not really know each other due to the age gaps; they may have left as individuals but came back as one big family.

Due to its success, next year's trip has already been booked and is virtually full. If your child wants to join us then please contact Mr Dixon, but you will need to hurry!!!!

Iron Man/Rowing Challenge - Mr Dixon took part in an Iron Man challenge in early July for Macmillan Cancer. He completed the course in an impressive 8hrs and 8 minutes. Students from Hawking House then rowed 136k - the length of the Iron Man course and raised £92.80.



Grammar Stream – in September we see the introduction of the new Grammar stream into Year 7 and 8. Over 30 students in each year have been selected for this pathway. The Grammar stream will offer the opportunity of additional stretch and challenge. Students will follow a bespoke curriculum designed to meet the rigors of the EBacc studies, with vital links made with our trust Grammar schools to ensure the teaching and learning mirrors that of a Grammar education.

Nut Free – from September, we will become a nut free school, the following items will be prohibited:

- Packet nuts of any variety
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seeds (rolls, etc.)
- Cakes made with, or containing, nuts



Thank you for keeping our school safe!

Exam Results Days - results can be collected from the Dining Hall on the following dates:

- Thursday 15th August 10am – 12pm A Level
- Thursday 22nd August 10am – 12pm GCSE

If students would like another person to collect their results on their behalf, please let Mrs Miles (Examination Office) know in writing advising the name of the person you wish to collect them. The nominated person will need to provide photographic identification on the day of collection. Please note we are unable to give results out over the telephone or by email. If students are unable to collect their results and wish them to be posted, please leave a stamped addressed envelope with Mrs Miles.

Parent App – in September, we will be launching our new parent app PS Connect, watch this space for more information!



Staffing Changes – I would like to welcome the following members of staff to Goodwin from September:

Mrs L Berduig	Teacher of MFL
Mrs H Britten	Assistant Principal – SEN/AEN (part time)
Mr J Curling	Teacher of PE
Mrs L Hutton	Teacher of Science
Mr I Khan	Teacher of Maths
Miss K Kitchener	SRBP Learning Support Assistant
Mr A Murphy	Teacher of Science
Mr N Ndlovu	Teacher of English
Mr J Scoble	Performing Arts Technician Apprentice
Mr I Searle	Teacher of Maths
Mr S Varley	SEN Learning Support Assistant

I would also like to congratulate the following members of staff who have new posts at the school:

Mr N Barnes	Head of Vocational Qualifications
Mrs D Bradford	Assistant Principal – Personal Development
Mr C Kitchener	Assistant Principal - Data Systems and KS3 Curriculum & Achievement
Mr R Knott	Head of History
Mrs R Moon	Assistant Principal – Teaching & Learning
Mr J Sharman	Internal Alternative Exclusion Manager

For a variety of reasons, we say thank you, farewell and good luck to the following staff members:

Mr M Argent	Teacher of Maths
Mr R Baddeley	Head of Applied Learning
Mr S Brookman	Science Technician
Mrs S Douglas	Head of SRBP
Mr L Friend	Football Coach
Mr N Grant	SEN Learning Support Assistant
Mr J Lopez-Vinas	Teacher of MFL/Science
Mrs S Mapstone	Teacher of English
Mrs A Thompson	Head of SEN/AEN
Mrs V Walsh	Technology Teacher

End of Term Arrangements - The Summer Term with end on Tuesday 23rd July at 12.15pm. A grab and go lunch will be available from the Dining Hall.



Start of Academic Year Arrangements - The Autumn Term will start on Tuesday 3rd September with times listed below:

8.30am – Year 7, 10 & 12 Start

Year 7	Theatre
Year 10	Sports Hall
Year 12	Library

9.30am – Year 8, 9, 11 & 13 Start

Year 8	Theatre
Year 9	Dining Hall
Year 11	Sports Hall
Year 13	Library

Term dates 2019-2020

Staff Inset Day:	Monday 2nd September 2019
Term 1:	Tuesday 3rd September – Thursday 17th October 2019
Staff Inset Day:	Friday 18th October 2019
Term 2:	Monday 28th October – Thursday 19th December 2019
Staff Inset Day:	Monday 6th January 2020
Term 3:	Tuesday 7th January 2020 – Friday 14th February 2020
Term 4:	Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April 2020
Term 5:	Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May 2020
Early May Bank Holiday:	Friday 8th May 2020
Term 6:	Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July 2020

Uniform - I would like to remind you that all uniform must be ordered directly from Fosters Schoolwear at www.fostersschoolwear.co.uk. If you have any enquires or concerns, please contact Fosters Schoolwear directly on 01279653865 or info@fostersschoolwear.co.uk. Uniform expectations can found on the following link on our school website <http://www.goodwinacademy.org.uk/our-school/academy-life/school-uniform/>.

On behalf of the governors and staff at Goodwin Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you, as parents and carers, for your support during the past Academic Year.

I wish you all a safe and happy summer break and I look forward to welcoming all our students back on **Tuesday 3rd September**.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Smith
Principal