



Christ's College Guildford

Principal: Sarah Hatch. BA (Hons), QTS, PGC, NPQH, NPQEL
www.christscollege.surrey.sch.uk



27th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Another eventful term is about to end, and I am delighted that a few of the Year 8 students are joining me in letting you know about some of the great things we have been involved with.

On Monday, 11th March the Year 8 students took part in a workshop with the Guildford Shakespeare Company. Several students took an active part in the workshop and worked with the GSC actors to create a fun and entertaining portrayal of *The Tempest*. It was great to watch the students use their skills in Drama to bring the production alive.

On 12th March, several Year 8 students were part of the cast and crew who represented the College at 'Guildford Schools Got Talent'. This is an annual charity event hosted by The Rotary Club celebrating the musical talents of schools in Guildford. One of the Year 8 performers had this to say; *'We went to G-Live. It was a great experience to perform in front of an audience. It gave us an opportunity to sing and dance. I found it a fun opportunity and would love to do it again as it is such a good experience and so enjoyable for us. I also found it was fun when we got to watch the other performances which were very good to watch.'*

Our young people face many challenges both personally and in the world around them. To support our students, we were privileged to host a performance of 'Masking'. One of the Year 8 students wrote; *'On Monday 18th March, we had a company visit for Year 8 to deliver a performance on mental health called 'Masking'. They covered examples of different types of mental health problems that could affect us all; autism, eating disorders, trauma and ADHD. The performance gave me an insight into how some people may be suffering and not talking openly about it. The workshop taught me how to always be kind and respectful to people because you never know what is going on in someone's life.'*

This half term has been marked by both Lent and Ramadan. To support our Muslim students, Rev Sarah and Ollie have facilitated midday prayer and I have been humbled by the determination and devotion of our Muslim students in observing this festival. One of our Muslim students has kindly agreed to share a little of their experience of fasting while coming to school. *'Going to school during Ramadan is quite daunting, from my experiences fasting in school is difficult especially during practical subjects such as P.E., where you are running around thirsty, and Food Nutrition, as you are working with food. Sometimes I don't have a lot of energy, especially for school, as I have to wake up at around 4 am to eat and then go back to sleep around 5 am. I have to wake up at 6 am for school. Doing this is quite hard as I don't get enough sleep as I usually would as I have to wake up earlier. Overall, in my opinion it is very hard to concentrate, especially at school when you can't eat or drink as that's what you need to help you function at school. Lastly I think it's a good experience to try and accomplish even though it may be tricky, it's worth trying.'*

Finally, we ended the term with another successful Enrichment Day. We walked into Guildford and spent time at St Saviour's Church and Milmead Baptist Church where the students had time to reflect on Easter and what it means to us. The day was filled with creative expressions of worship and reflection and the students ended the day at the oldest church in Guildford, St Mary's Church where Rev Sarah led us in a short service of celebration.

I am looking forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 8 students in our termly Celebration Assembly on Thursday morning and we will be ending the term with another reflection of the Easter story with the Performing Arts Department putting on the Passion Play.



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May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support and wish you all a blessed Easter. To all our Muslim families, may I wish you a blessed Eid al-Fitr.

Kindest regards

J. Milne

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