

From the Headmaster: Craig Williams, MA (Oxon), P.G.C.E.

Friday 1 July 2022

Dear Parents

The second half of term continues to fly by and the children are as busy as ever as we come to the final week of term.

At the start of the week, Year 7 spent two days in Warwickshire exploring Shakespeare country, visiting Warwick Castle and showing off their adventurous nature at Go Ape. Despite an inclement weather forecast, they had a fantastic time away. It was lovely to receive two emails from venues they attended congratulating them on their behaviour and manners.

Our Year 5s have been experiencing more of a staycation on Thursday and Friday this week. They enjoyed an overnight camp on Thursday evening with a range of team building games and challenges and of course the very important marshmallows round the campfire. I was lucky enough to be invited to their pizza dinner!

On the cricket pitch there were impressive wins for the Colts B and 4th team this week with the 6th and 7th teams taking on Cothill later this afternoon and more fixtures on Saturday. Our U13s are playing in a T20 tournament in Cambridge this weekend and we wish all boys the best of luck who are representing APS on the cricket pitch tomorrow. This week alone more than 150 boys will have represented the school in cricket matches which is fantastic.

Tennis matches took place on Monday afternoon and there were some particularly good, even matches in our U11 and U13 pairs. I was also delighted to hear that we have three children this Saturday unable to take part in matches because they are at regional kayaking, squash and equestrian events. It is always lovely to hear about how our children are progressing in their sports and activities outside of school.

Twenty boys undertook their LAMDA exams on Wednesday after much preparation with Steve and from what I have heard, they all performed superbly well and I look forward to sharing their results with them when they come through to us.

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On Tuesday, Michelle Dafour, artist and sculptor at Waddesdon Manor National Trust property visited school to speak to our Year 6 children about an exciting new project where our children's artwork will become part of some animal sculptures on display at the house. It is great that the children are involved in projects like this.

I can only finish my letter this week by talking about our fantastic Pre-Prep Summer concert which took place this afternoon. The boys sang beautifully and there were amazing soloists and group performances. The boys should be incredibly proud of their musical efforts.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

With best wishes

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Headmaster