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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"A creative man is motivated by the desire to achieve, not by the desire to beat others"
- Ayn Rand



Chaplain's 500



Tornado fighters are now deployed, following the mandate given to the Prime Minister for the conflict centred upon Syria. We move further down a complicated and dangerous road. Cultural awareness, learning from the past and imaginative priorities do not run high. One Advent subject becomes more relevant than usual.

The classic Christian model of good and evil is neither classic, nor Christian. Still less is it rational. It is that of a good God locked in combat with an evil devil. At the end of time, God will appear and take all good people to a happy place. The devil and the bad people will be thrown into hell, where sulphurous flames will burn them for all eternity. Prominent in Irish Catholicism and Protestantism, this picture is so entrenched, that some still talk as if it were real future history operated by God and his followers. Yet the idea appears nowhere in the Bible. It was never taught by Jesus, and is entirely absent from the earliest churches. There are barely a dozen references to the devil in the hundreds of pages of the Old Testament. Far more are in the slim pages of the New, and Jesus' remarks make it dishonest to tidy the devil out of the way completely. But there is nothing of the model slightly parodied above.

Faced with ongoing evil around us, we need real and effective ideas against it, lest we fall into one of two traps. We become resigned, aloof from evil *and those affected by it*. Or we become fearful, respond irrationally, *and become mindlessly violent* to greater or lesser degrees.

The theologian Andrew Walker published a book this year called 'Notes from a Wayward Son'. He develops the idea that we have produced highly paranoid societies. People who become abnormally nervous or afraid, demonise and punish all who pose a threat to them – migrants, Muslims, minorities of any kind. All cultures produce extremes of hatred, whether their labels are Daesh or Ku Klux Klan. The central characteristic is the same: fear. If at root we are fearful, we generate dark beliefs about evil, and violence follows. It is no accident that groups which are hot on hell are cold toward racial and sexual minorities.

We are told firmly that love casts out fear. Jesus certainly believed in an evil power. He identifies him as an agent of lies and hate. He did not go much into this, and felt no need to make elaborate theories. When Jesus occasionally encountered knots of evil, he dealt with them calmly through his own spiritual power. Like every spiritual master, he never proceeded from fear, and refused all encouragement to demonising anyone. Hence he would not take up arms against the Romans, or any of those anxious to destroy him. There is much room for thought here on our part. Only by so thinking, will we move out of the sick nonsense and dangerous paralysis which surround us now, as another Christmas approaches.

School photos/Whole School Photo

If you would like to receive any additional photos, please contact the photographers directly:

Van Cols - Laura Woolnough Laura.Woolnough@vancols.com – Individual/Sibling photos

Gillman & Soame Rachel Pancott Rachel.Pancott@gillmanandsoame.co.uk – Whole school photo

Kind regards

Jo

DRAMA DEPARTMENT EVENTS:

Peter Pan (whole school show)

A reworking of the classic story, devised by the cast.

Friday 11th December 7pm, RAAS PAC.

This performance is open to all

Booking essential

(boarders book through houses)

To book, please email oliphillips@gatton-park.org.uk

We do not charge entry for our productions, but there will be a retiring collection.

Y11 Donut Sale Thursday 10 December



The Y11 Prom Committee are holding a Donut sale next Thursday 10 December at 10:40am in the Cage to raise funds for their Prom next year.

Please come along and treat yourselves, all Donuts £1.



Annie Danaee, Head of Y11

BOARDERS TRIP PROGRAMME
SPRING TERM 1

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|----------|--------|---|-----------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Date | | | 6th Jan | | | | 10-Jan |
| Activity | | | Boarders Return | | Cobham Services | Macbeth at Young Vic | Waterworld |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | | | | | | |
| Cost | | | | | | | |
| Date | | | | | 15th Jan | | 17-Jan |
| Activity | | Airhop - Years 7-8 | | | Build a Bear | | Chessington Zoo and Sea Life |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | | | | | | NB Mountain biking course for staff |
| Cost | | | | | £19 | | |
| Date | | 19th Jan | | | | 23-Jan | 24-Jan |
| Activity | | The Nutcracker | | | JRC Global Buffet | Goodnight Mr Tom | Lakeside sales shopping |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | Airhop - Seniors | | | | | |
| Cost | | | | | | | |
| Date | | | 27th Jan | | 29th Jan | | 31-Jan |
| Activity | | Airhop - For Years 3-6 | Wicked | | Build a Bear | | Chinese Festival |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | | | | | | |
| Cost | | | £37.50 | | £19 | | |
| Date | | | | | | | 7th Feb |
| Activity | | Wing Yip Supermarket | | | Movie Night | | Harry Potter Studio |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | | | | | | 1.30pm |
| Cost | | | | | | | cost £24/ 31 |
| Date | | | | | | | 14-Feb |
| Activity | | Tesco's Crawley/ MacDonalds Salfords | | | End of Term | | |
| Group | | | | | | | |
| Time | | | | | | | |
| Cost | | | | | | | |

Free School Meals

Surrey County Council through Babcock 4S provide a simple service to process claims for free school meals by checking entitlement via a secure government website. As we are a Boarding School, records about provision of free school meals are used for statistical purposes only. An excellent school lunch is always provided for every pupil. Free school meals are part of the formula that the Department for Education use to calculate the funding available to pupils and we are therefore very keen to maximise this.

In order to qualify for free school meals, the parent/guardian must be in receipt of at least one of the qualifying benefits, set out by Surrey County Council. Please see the School's website under 'Information for Parents' for our guidance letter and application form http://www.raa-school.co.uk/information_for_parents.asp

If you are eligible for free school meals, please complete and return the application form to the School Office as soon as possible. If you are already in receipt of free school meals then you do not need to re-apply.

Applying For a Year 3 Place – *Deadline 15th January 2016*****

If you have a child in Year 2 at another school and you would like the child to come here in Year 3 you must complete two application forms before 15th January 2016.

The first is the School application form which can be downloaded from the School website.

The second is the Surrey County Council form which is on the Surrey website here <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/apply-for-a-school-place?content=3922>

If you don't live in Surrey, you should complete the application form for your own local authority.

Thanks

The Admissions Team

Boarding Schools' Association Parent Survey

Some of you will be aware that this school is a member of the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA). This organisation champions boarding and promotes boarding excellence. Many of our staff attend training courses and events organised by the BSA. The BSA also represents boarding schools in discussions with government about national policies for boarding schools. It is therefore very important that they keep up to date with the views of parents. They have asked parents of pupils at all member schools to complete the survey on the link below.

<http://surveys.researchstories.co.uk/surveys/J2015researchstories004?sch=uk460>

Not only will this information help the BSA, but it will also help this school, as we will receive a copy of the results from our parents. They would like all parents to complete the survey (including boarders, flexi boarders, day boarders and day pupils).

Many thanks for your assistance with this.

Helen Pollard
Director of Marketing and Admissions

School Trips

Please be aware that as a consequence of the terrorist activities in France we have updated our Risk Assessments.

We continue to receive advice from both Surrey and the Government. All trips are continuing but could change if we are advised to do so.

As ever safety of our students is of paramount importance. You can of course withdraw your child from a trip at any point, but the normal cancellation rules apply.

Sunday Activities**Bushcraft Camp** – Juniors (Saturday 1.45 – Sunday brunch)**Lakeside Shopping 10 to 5p.m.****Bothy 11-1****Pool**

Juniors 1-2 p.m.

Year 7-8 2 to 3p.m.

Year 9 + 3 to 4p.m.

Astro 1 to 4**Rank Weston Activities 9 to 4****HERE'S WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THE
COMING WEEK...**

| | | | |
|--------------|---|---------|-----------------------------|
| Fri 4 Dec | Bridge of Spies (12A) Cinema | Y7-13 | Y7-13 |
| Sat 5 Dec | Overnight Survival Camp | Juniors | Cornwall House |
| Tues 8 Dec | Christmas with the Coopers (12A) Cinema | Y9-13 | Y 9-13 |
| Fri 11 Dec | Good Dinosaur, Cinema | £8.30 | Juniors |
| Sat 12 Dec | Aladdin, Harlequin Theatre | £14.00 | Y7 |
| Tues 15 Dec | Jack & the Beanstalk, Hawth Theatre | £17.95 | All |
| 2016 | | | |
| Tues 19 Jan | Nutcracker, Hawth Theatre (St Petersburg Classic Ballet) | £29.50 | All |
| Sat 6 Feb | Minotaur, Unicorn Theatre, London | £15.00 | Year 5 & 6 |
| Fri 22 April | Priscilla Queen of the Desert Musical, Hawth Theatre | £37.50 | Year 10+ OVER 15 yrs old |

TRIPS AVAILABLE ON WISEPAY

| | | | |
|--------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Fri 11 Dec | Good Dinosaur, Cinema | £8.30 | Juniors |
| Tues 15 Dec | Jack & the Beanstalk, Hawth Theatre | £17.95 | All |
| 2016 | | | |
| Sun 10 Jan | Coral Reef Waterworld, Bracknell | £7.00 | |
| Tues 12 Jan | Airhop, Guildford | £10.00 | Year 7 & 8 |
| Fri 16 Jan | Build A Bear Party, Bluewater | £19.00 | Junior Boarders |
| Sun 17 Jan | Chessington Zoo and Sea Life Centre | £6.00 | Boarders |
| Tues 19 Jan | Airhop, Guildford | £10.00 | Year 9 – 13 |
| Tues 19 Jan | Nutcracker, Hawth Theatre (St Petersburg Classic Ballet) | £29.50 | All |
| Fri 22 Jan | JRC Global Buffet, Croydon | £18.99 £9.50 (juniors under 150cms) | All |
| Tues 26 Jan | Airhop, Guildford | £10.00 | Year 3-6 |
| Fri 29 Jan | Build A Bear Party, Bluewater | £19.00 | Senior Boarders |
| Wed 27 Jan | Wicked, London theatre trip | £37.50 | Y7 - 13 |
| Sun 31 Jan | Chinese New Year Event | £7.00 | |
| Sat 6 Feb | Minotaur, Unicorn Theatre, London | £15.00 | Year 5 & 6 |
| Sun 7 Feb | Harry Potter World | £24 (under 16) £31 (over 16) | Boarders |
| Sat 27 Feb | Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, theatre trip | £34.00 | Y7 - 13 |
| Sat 12 March | Woman in Black , theatre trip | £28.00 | Y8 – 13 |
| Fri 22 April | Priscilla Queen of the Desert Musical, Hawth Theatre | £37.50 | Year 10+ OVER 15 yrs old |

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Judo Competition

On Saturday 28th November RAAS judo children entered a club competition in Banstead. The competition is to win points and gain grades (belts) for their Samurai Sam figure by winning contests against other judo players.

Lots of children came along including Annabel Canning, Paige McAuliffe, Cathan McAuliffe, William Chapman, Phillipa Osei, Robin Gurung, Aimee Wall and Levi Gitahi from the junior school. Along with Josh Last, Josh Cowen, Francesca Sexton and Elliot Misquitta from the seniors.

Lots of fun was had and lots of contests won; both by Ippon throws (throwing opponent flat on their back) and by hold downs on the ground (holding partner on their back for 25 seconds) The children did the school proud both with their behaviour and efforts in contest.

Photos show William with his Samurai Sam in the red belt he won and Paige and Levi in a hold down, Paige is wearing the half black belt a reward belt for achievement in the lesson given out weekly.

We are all looking forward to our annual awards night in a couple of weeks where we will get rewarded for all our hard work this year.

Rachelle Sexton
Judo Teacher





What's the difference between the Mayor, Santa and the Queen?

The answer is not as straight forward as you might think, especially if you are a 7 year old child.

There are many similarities between them. The Mayor and the Queen are both important women who wear robes and chains of office; the Mayor and Santa both wear red.

On a visit to the Junior School of the Royal Alexandra and Albert School to announce the runners up of the Mayor's Christmas card competition, Mayor Spiers sparked an interesting debate amongst the children: was she the Queen or Santa?

Two Year 3 children were overheard having a heated discussion on the subject. One was adamant that the Mayor was in fact Santa, after all she was wearing a red robe and black boots. However, this was forcefully rejected by the other child – the visitor was obviously the Queen because of her shiny gold chains.

The matter was still not settled when a child asked Mayor Spiers if she was the Queen. Mayor Spiers gave an excellent explanation that, although she was not the Queen, she was the Queen's representative in the borough.

The answer did not convince a Year 4 pupil who asked, somewhat suspiciously, "Do you have a throne?"

Mayor's Spiers answer that she did not have a throne, cemented one child's view, once and for all, the Mayor was Santa!

Even though many of the children were confused by the Mayor's true identity (a consensus was not reached), they were delighted that two members of the Junior School, Evie Owsnett and Mario Diodato, were runners up in the Mayor's Christmas card competition and will have their designs on the back of the Mayor's official Christmas card. Their designs were chosen from hundreds of entries submitted from across the borough.

Evie and Mario were awarded lovely certificates and a visit to the Town Hall for the whole Junior School.

Dr Ines Salman, Head of the Junior School, commented on the day, "The Mayor's visit was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to meet an important representative of our borough. Mayor Spiers was personable and had great interaction with our children, all of whom were very excited to meet her."

One has to wonder... how many children went back to their classrooms in the sure knowledge that they had met the Queen... or Santa?

Probably most of them.

Miss Sefora Dias
Marketing and Admissions Assistant



|  Star of the Week  Autumn Term Week 10 | | |
|--|-----------------|---|
| 3P | Isla Henderson | For always being a productive and friendly member of the classroom. |
| 4M | Elisa Hussain | For an improvement in her level of effort and presentation of work in literacy and numeracy |
| 5C | Annabel Canning | For approaching everything in a positive manner. |
| 5S | Sophie Ford | For consistent effort and always producing work to the best of her ability. |
| 6L | Finlay Willsher | For an increasingly mature attitude and behaviour. |
| 6S | Cody McCarthy | For an improvement in participation in class discussions |
|  The Golden Book  Autumn Term Week 10 | | |
| Scarlett Madden | 3P | For brilliant work trying to solve shape problems. |
| Naomi Cribb | 3P | For a much improved effort with work in class and at home. |
| Rania Toy | 4M | For excellent scores in spellings since the start of term |
| Imogen Abrahams | 4M | For regular contributions in class and excellent work on time in maths |
| Abigail Patel | 5C | For doing some extra research at home about the planet Mercury and adding it into our class assembly. |
| Webster Makwati | 5C | For persevering with word problems in numeracy. |
| Benjamin Aliu | 5S | For working hard to produce a clay pot. |
| Olivia Cowen | 5S | For creating a clay pot with a fantastic design. |
| Amelia Chambers | 6S | Excellent participation in all maths lessons. |
| Finely Morgan | 6S | For excellent knowledge about WW2 on our trip to the RAF museum |
| Jonny Singh - Anderson | 6L | For amazingly accurate drawing and measuring in numeracy. |
| Jonny Carter | 6L | For excellent effort finding prefixes in his literacy prep. |

WEEKLY MENU

Royal Alexandra and Albert School Week Three

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| Irish Shepherd's Pie | Jamaican Beef Curry | Creamy Chicken & Tarragon Cobbler | Beef, Neep & Tattie Pie | Classic Chip Shop Fish & Chips | Matador Madness | Brunch |
| Corned Beef & Potato Hash | Caribbean Jerk Marinated Chicken | Liam's Portsmouth Pollack Pie | Haddock Cullen Skink Potage | Potato Topped Turkey & Ham Pie | Spanish Butter Bean & Chicken Stew | |
| Boxty Cakes with Irish Cabbage | Plantain, Sweet Potato & Black Bean Stew | Cheddar Cheese, Broccoli & Potato Gratin | Vegetarian Haggis & Clapshot | Carrot & Swede Pasty | Roasted Aubergine & Courgette Frittata | |
| Served with: Dublin Coddle & Minted New Potatoes | Served with: Coriander & Allspice Braised Vegetables, Rice & Pidgeon Peas | Served with: Steamed Broccoli, Garden Peas & Seasonal Salad | Served with: Savoy Cabbage, Roasted Vegetables & Rumbledethumps | Served with: Homemade Mushy Peas, Baked Beans & Curry Sauce | Served with: Patatas Bravas, Buttered Chard, Spinach, Greens & Roasted Pepper Salad | |
| Barm Brack with Custard (Irish Fruit Cake) | Tres Leches Coconut Cake | Fruit Roly Poly with Custard | Apple Frushie (Scottish Apple Pie) | Butterscotch Pudding | Magdalenas Caseras (Spanish Muffins) | Jason's Juice & Smoothie Shack |
| Supper | Supper | Supper | Supper | Supper | Supper | Supper |
| Luscious Louisiana Night | Chinese Banquet | Burger Joint | Northern Takeover | Eastern Promise | Toni's Italian | Roast of the Week |
| Smoke House Style Beef | Sweet & Sour Pork | Homemade Prime Beef Burger | Lancashire Hot Pot | Beef Goulash & Sour Cream | Assorted Pasta & Sauces (Selected by Toni, our Italian culinary expert) | Home Roast with Traditional Accompaniments |
| Louisiana Hot Sauce Chicken | Cantonese Style Chicken | Mozzarella & Field Mushroom Burger | Beef Rag Pudding | Pork Stroganoff | | |
| Mac 'n' Cheese | Tofu & Ginger Chow Mein | Popcorn Chicken Burger | Toni's Blind Scouse & Dumplings | Field Mushroom & Garlic Strudel | | |
| Served with: Chipotle Salad, Baby Roasted Potatoes, Slaw & Chilli Sweetcorn | Served with: Prawn Crackers, Egg Fried Rice & Cucumber Ribbon Salad | Served with: Coleslaw, Relish & Shoe String Fries | Served with: Buttered Cabbage & Tater Hash | Served with: Sauerkraut & Czech Dumplings | Served with: Garlic & Herb Ciabatta & Italian Salad Bar | Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Root Vegetables |
| Key Lime Pie | Banana Fritters | Chocolate Chip Muffins | Manchester Tart | Andrew & Arthur's Favorki (Polish Pastries) | Genoise Cakes with Vanilla Butter Icing | Carrot Cake |

HARRISON
food with thought