### **Boarding News - Dec 2022**





**Welcome** to the last boarding newsletter of 2022. End-of-term exams are over, school reports are being finalised and students are looking forward to a well-earned break from their studies.

Most boarders are travelling home for the Christmas holiday and I hope that you enjoy having your child/children back at home for the month. Some are not going home this time and I know that this will be difficult for you, but I'm sure that they will be well looked after by family, guardians and host families in the UK. Please ensure that you have emailed me with plans for this period.

Mrs Dorrington, myself and the rest of the boarding team hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas (if celebrated) and are looking forward to seeing everyone back on Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup> 2023.

**No two weekends** are the same in boarding, but below is a taste of activities that took place over the second weekend of October.

Friday night at Tenby House was a horror movie and popcorn night hosted by Ms Angharad.

Mr Jones encouraged all of Parc House out for a Saturday

morning at the local park – a two-minute walk from the house:



Saturday afternoon was spent watching football - Swansea City hosted and beat Sunderland at home:









A pool competition on Saturday evening attracted 16 entries and Ethan was the overall winner of the double elimination draw, ably managed by Success:





There was almost as much excitement on the same night over the discovery of the Periodic Table jigsaw! A missing final piece was carefully recreated by Austin:



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Sunday is typically a day of relaxation and study, but there were still a number of students who managed to find time for haircuts, gym visits, a local football tournament and swimming!

A table tennis competition held in Tenby House was enjoyed by many:



Daniel was the overall winner, beating Peter in the final. Again, I was ably assisted by Success and Gbubemi who scored most of the games:







Parc House quiz night – rounds included topics as diverse as

instrumental music, flags, logos, NBA, and Minecraft.

Overall winners were Precious, Bowen, Gareth and Wallace:





And some unusual footwear in Parc House:



Boarders from Parc and Tenby House supporting the Llangennech Community litter pick on Sunday 23rd October:



Leave approval
ensure that you seek approval
from Mr Ferrari via his P.A. Anne
Jones (jonesa@stmikes.co.uk)
before booking flights at the end
of term if your child will be



missing any more than a day of school.

Most boarders remain in school until close to the last day of term. Teachers will generally teach until the penultimate day and trips usually take place on the last day of term.

We understand however that flights may be cheaper a day or two before and for shorter holidays, an extra day or two can make a significant difference.

Please remember however that there are UKVI requirements that you and the school must adhere to, and our licence and your child's visa is at risk for any period of unauthorised absence. Mr Ferrari will rarely reject a request for early leave, but by notifying him and the school office in good time we can authorise an absence for a day or two.

Thank you for your support with this.

### **Local** volunteering

Many of our boarders across both houses are currently involved in supporting the local foodbank – providing a lifeline to families struggling with the current cost of living crisis.



Volunteering takes places on Friday evenings, and many have also helped out by collecting food at a local supermarket.

Boarders are also involved in helping our Pre-Prep staff with afterschool activities and many (highlighted in previous newsletters) are active with our

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local community centre – helping with event setup etc.

The school and local community are grateful for their dedication and hard work.

#### Half-term highlights

Most boarding schools close for the half-term holidays, but here at St. Mike's we are open for all three! Most of our boarders stay for these holidays and below is a selection of activities from the October/November holiday.

Cycling proficiency test:



Trip to the circus:





Pumpkin carving for Halloween:













Parc House trip to Dinefwr Castle:



Night basketball at Parc House:



Halloween games:



Parc House movie imitation night (Tenby House to follow in 2023): Zoom-in to see these in detail – they are very good!



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Ninja Warrior:





Fireworks at the Scarlets Rugby ground:

