



From the Headmaster: Weekly Update – 10/11/23

Dear Parents

Last Saturday's senior school Open Day was once again close to absolute capacity, despite the rain, with more than 1200 visitors to the school in the course of the morning. Many thanks to colleagues and pupil tour guides who were more or less constantly busy throughout the morning. Year 7 tour guides did a particularly good job, having just completed their first half term in the senior school.

Remembrance has been a major focus this week, with assemblies in both junior and senior schools. 126 Old Colfeians lost their lives in the Great War alone. The Act of Remembrance will be commemorated at the Old Colfeians' War Memorial on Sunday, led by the school CCF squadron and including the laying of wreaths by school captains from both junior and senior schools.

The PAFA AGM on Monday evening provided an opportunity to thank the PAFA team for all they have done to support the school over the last year. Funds raised by PAFA are being deployed across a wide range of school activity to enhance our provision for pupils of all ages. I was delighted to hear how successful the wine tasting event had been the previous week and we look forward to welcoming the Bexley Brewery for a corresponding event involving beer next term.

The new Wellbeing Garden in the senior school was opened officially at lunchtime today. This will be a space for quiet and peaceful reflection for all members of the school community. The landscaping and planting were funded by the family of Harry Noyce who died tragically almost a year ago when he was in Year 8. The garden is dedicated to his memory. The opening ceremony was attended by Harry's friends and teachers and members of his family.

It has been a good week for senior sport, with the 1st XV rugby team defeating Bancrofts and the 1st X1 football team beating Sevenoaks in the first round of the ISFA competition. The girls U16 hockey team played extremely well against Croydon High School on Tuesday, just missing out narrowly (on goal difference) on a place in the national finals.

With best wishes to all

Richard Russell
Headmaster