

Outstanding GCSE successes

I am pleased to report another very successful year with excellent overall results and some truly outstanding individual successes. Unfortunately we have not quite repeated last year's remarkable results when all pupils gained 5 or more A* - C grades, however, I am delighted that over a third of all grades were A* or A.

Congratulations go to all of last year's Year 11 pupils. On average there were over nine passes per pupil. In particular well done to Milo Edwards who passed a remarkable thirteen GCSEs gaining 11 A* and 2 A grades. Also very well done to Chloe Cheung who was awarded 7 A* and 4 A grades and to Roger Yu who achieved 7 A* and 3 A grades.

Other excellent performances included Jamie Gough (4A*, 6A, and 2B), Francesca Thirley (3A* and 8A) and Alexander Cadzow (1 A*, 8 A and 2B). These are wonderful achievements and they reflect the high standards the pupils set themselves.

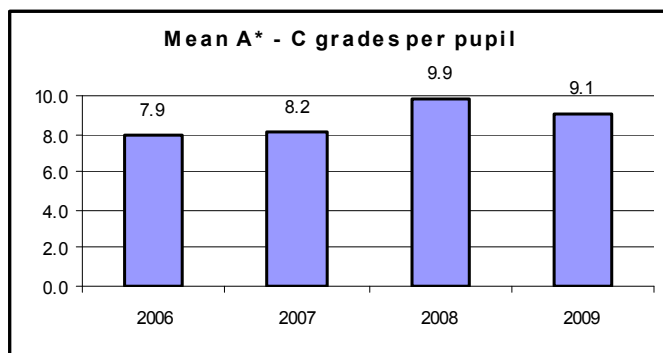
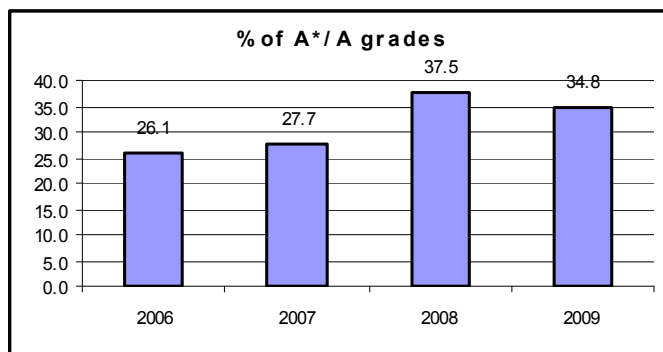
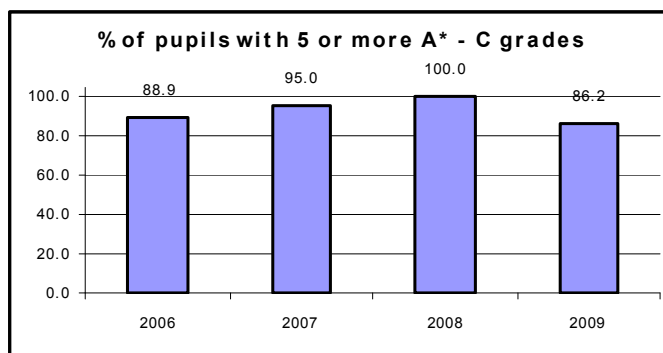
We wish all the pupils the very best for their future studies.



Milo Edwards who gained a highly commendable eleven A and two A grades in his GCSEs*

KS2 SATs results

We are delighted with the Year 6 SAT results this year. In English, Maths and science the percentage of pupils who gained level 4 or higher were 97%, 94%, 100% respectively. The proportion gaining level 5 in these subjects were 31%, 46%, 66%. Well done to all the Year 6 pupils and their teachers.



New pupils

We warmly welcome all new pupils and their families who are joining us this term. I am sure that you will all quickly become part of the St. Nic's family and I look forward to meeting you in the weeks ahead.

New staff

We are delighted to welcome Mr Pieter Kotzé who will join us as a part-time teacher of science. Originating from South Africa Pieter is a very well qualified scientist and has taught in the UK since 2002.

Parental Questionnaires

All parents and guardians have been sent a parental questionnaire and we do hope that most parents will find the time to complete this valuable source of feedback. Your views will help inform the senior leadership team (SLT) and the governors on key issues which will form part of the school's improvement planning for the coming year. I look forward to receiving your completed questionnaires.

Uniform

I have always placed a great emphasis on high standards of behaviour, courtesy and appearance and I expect all pupils to start the term positively.

Parents' support of the school rules in relation to uniform, hair, make-up and jewellery goes a long way to helping us maintain high standards and will be very much appreciated. A copy of the senior department rules has been sent to all families of senior pupils. Pupils may choose to wear summer uniform up to half term.

Parental Handbooks

These were issued at the end of last term and new families should also have received their copies. If you did not receive your copy please contact the school office or speak to the relevant Head of Department.

Parking

Parents are requested to form a double line of vehicles whilst queuing on the main drive and are asked never to park on the main drive. At the end of the day pupils will always be supervised until they are collected. Please note that we cannot supervise pupils before 8:30 am. We hope that parents will make arrangements to car share whenever this is feasible.

Infant pupils

Pupils should remain in the vehicle on arrival until it is parked, and should be accompanied through the Library courtyard to the infant playground. They should be collected from their designated areas in the playground at the end of the day.

Juniors & senior pupils

Parents may drop pupils just before the entrance to the junior playground, thus avoiding the need to park. Junior pupils should use the path between the library and the garden wall, into the infant play area. Seniors should walk along the new path to the barrier. At the end of the day pupils wait for parents in the Library courtyard.

Term Fees

May I remind all parents that fees are due for payment on or before the first day of term. Your prompt settlement is much appreciated, as this enables us to maintain the highest educational standards and the best facilities for your children, as well as keeping fees as low as possible.

School Uniform Shop

All uniform orders which were placed prior to or during the summer break will be available for collection on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Parents are asked to telephone the school office to confirm that their order is ready.

Please note that the uniform shop will next be open at the following times;

8:45 – 9:30 am,

1:30 – 1:50 pm and

2:30 – 3:45 pm.

On the following days;

Wednesday 9th September

Tuesday 22nd September

Tuesday 6th October

Tuesday 20th October

Tuesday 3rd November

Tuesday 17th November

Tuesday 1st December

Term Calendar

As usual you have been sent a calendar showing the Autumn Term's events has been sent to all parents. This also includes the year's term dates and the dates of other key events.

The term dates for the academic year 2010-2011 are still to be finalised. I am proposing to introduce a two-week October half term for the next academic year and would welcome any parental views on this suggestion.

I wish everyone a happy and successful term.

Best wishes,



Keith Knight
Headmaster