

School Report from Chris Burt for FOSA AGM Minutes

The Year 2018/19 was a truly significant and Golden Year for St Aidan's as we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the school to its first intake of Year 7s in September 1968. This Golden year culminated in a glorious sequence of celebrations on the weekend of the 4th/5th May.

The school's academic results at GCSE and A' Level this year again reflected the hard work of everyone involved – students, staff and parents. Highlights include a Progress 8 score of +0.49, 88% of GCSE grades were at 9-4 across all subjects and 23% of all GCSE grades were 9-8. At Advanced level, 28% of all grades were A/A*, 53% A*-B. However, St Aidan's continues to value not only academic excellence but also so much more. Many trips took place over the academic year culminating for Year 11 with their annual trip to the Ardeche a school tradition for many years.

Open Evenings and Open Day were held in October and I am pleased to say that all were very well attended. Feedback received from people who attended the evenings and open day was very good. Approximately 275 students visited the Sixth Form on Saturday morning, which was particularly pleasing.

St Aidan's has a well established reputation for professional standard theatrical productions. Last year 'Sister Act' was a huge success and we now look forward to the forthcoming annual School Production 'We Will Rock You', which will commence on Tuesday 26th November for 5 evenings. Fran Bray and her production team have worked extremely hard to bring this popular musical to the school stage in Constance Green Hall and we look forward to seeing many parents, students and friends of St Aidan's attending the event.

The school continues to be oversubscribed and is currently full in all year groups. With a total number on roll of 1,975, we are fortunate within the national context of schools to be fully staffed with a superb, highly committed and dedicated team of colleagues, teaching in their specialist areas whilst also providing first rate pastoral care. Sport, Music and so many other areas of school continue to 'fizz' with the involvement and achievement of pupils, led by staff committed to the wide extra-curricular programme the school provides.

Chris Burt