IAPS Swimming Finals, London Aquatics Centre 10th June 2018

Nine of our pupils went to the Aquatics Centre last Saturday to compete in the IAPS National Swimming Finals. It was a great day for all involved; the pupils rallied round and supported one another beautifully and there was great team spirit. The standard of these finals is exceptionally high and to feature in the top 20 in the country is a huge achievement in itself.

There were many highlights, but particular mention must be made of the U12 girls' medley and freestyle relays; they beat their best performances this year in both races by almost 4 seconds, only to discover they'd set new school records in each. Emily H was particularly pleased with these performances, because the two school records broken had been set by each of her sisters during their time at St Faith's! Amelia S, who has been trying to swim the 50m breaststroke in under 40 seconds for some time now, swam 39.55 – this was a great personal achievement for her on three levels: her 40 second barrier had been broken, she'd qualified for the final and she's also equalled the school record. It didn't stop there though, in the final, she swam 39.50, so the school record is now her own! Chris H also set a new personal best and beat his own school record set on the Tuesday before in our gala against King's Ely, he swam 36.37, and finished 9th in the final. Other highlights include Ania coming 7th in the 50m freestyle (after qualifying in 10th place) Reuben finishing 12th (after qualifying in 15th position) and Tomas finishing 15th (after qualifying in 20th position).

This was a great end to the year, and I am really proud of the whole team, not just the national qualifiers, who have swam brilliantly all year — the swim team is undefeated for 2017/18. Eighteen new school records have been set since September. Over the last two academic years, we have started to swim galas for pupils in Year 4, so based on this year's and last year's results, school records for the U9 have been recorded. A list of records is in the index of this week's newsletter, the ones highlighted in red have been set this year.

Many thanks to all the parents who continue to support the swim team at every opportunity – we all really appreciate it.

Results for the day:

U12 girls' 4 x 25m freestyle relay: 1.02.41 (7th) (New School Record) U12 girls' 4 x 25m medley relay: 1.09.97 (8th) (New School Record) Mateo U10 25m backstroke 18.92 (13th)
Reuben U10 25m breaststroke 21.26 (12th)
Tomás U12 50m breaststroke 44.26 (PB) (15th)
Nadine U12 50m breaststroke 41.12 (8th)
Ania U12 50m freestyle 31.70 (PB) (7th)
Amelia U13 50m breaststroke 39.50 (PB) (9th) (New School Record)
Chris U13 50m breaststroke 36.37 (PB) (9th) (New School Record)

Mrs N Critchley