



31st January 2025

Dear Parents/carers

It was a pleasure to be able to meet so many students and parents at the year 11 Subject evening last night -the final one prior to their GCSE exams beginning. I hugely enjoy being in the classroom and 11C Historians are certainly working hard in class and at home as we approach the final few months. Mr Jones, Deputy Head, has written to all year 11 parents updating on further ways students are being supported in their preparation during tutor times and the plans for when exams start in May. If you have any questions or concerns please do contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

### **Dropping off on Mizzymead Road**

Parents and students have now become used to the system of the gates closing 10 minutes either side of the start and end of the school day. The reduction of cars travelling around and exiting the site has made the car park a much safer place for students, thank you. Staff on duty on the gate have, however, noticed some parents placing themselves and others in danger when dropping off on Mizzymead Road. As a reminder, some of the roads outside of school do have double yellow lines on them and it is never advisory to drop off at the pedestrian crossing or reverse back into the busy traffic on the road. Thanks for your understanding.

### **Bikeability for Year 7**

Lifecycle are running their bike safety course again this half term teaching cycling confidence, road safety, and planning skills. If you are interested in this for your child please book a place here <https://bit.ly/48Ai378>.

### **Card purchases at breaktime and lunchtime**

The catering team are noticing, once again, an increase in the number of students that are not bringing their card to purchase food/drink at breaktime and lunchtime. As you will remember from previous correspondence on this issue, cards are an expected part of the uniform and the system enables service to be time efficient. The time we have for break and lunch is more than sufficient to serve all students and staff, if time is not taken not having to manually look up the names and accounts of individuals. As before, persistent offenders will be told they cannot purchase food if they cannot present their card for payment.

If a student has lost their card, they can purchase a replacement through Parent Pay and the Finance team will ensure this is delivered to them.



**Finally...** the first face to face House Challenge takes place at lunchtime today with all four houses striving to score points in the Academic Shield in our own University Challenge quiz. Rest assured I will be doing my best not to impersonate Jeremy Paxman when asking the questions. It was Unicorn who came out top in the Wellbeing Bingo challenge last week so it will be interesting to see if their good fortune continues. Results will be revealed this afternoon – keep an eye out on the social media feeds for an update. Enjoy your weekend

Take care and be kind



Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

