



4th April 2025

Dear Parents/carers

The final week of term 4 has seen Unicorn House students excelling themselves in their charity week efforts. All money raised will be split between Cancer Research UK, the DEN and Wellspring counselling – three fantastic causes, again, chosen by the students.

I trust year 9 families found the Guided Choices event yesterday evening a productive one. Making the decision on which optional subjects to take for GCSE is always an exciting time for students as they move through their secondary educational experience. As a reminder, the deadline for the return of forms is Friday 25th April.

Students will return from the Easter break on Tuesday 22nd April which will be a week 2.

Finally... this term marked the anniversary of the start of the pandemic five years ago and ultimately this made me think back to the experience our current year 11 students had during that period and since. The class of 2025 clearly went through a lot. SATs were cancelled, those year 6 residentials could not take place and any other leaving events were not possible. This group's transition to Nailsea was non-existent and when the students did arrive in the building they were zoned off, with all practical elements in subjects and lots of group work being banned.

Despite all of this, our cohort of year 11s coped and they pushed through. Over the last couple of years standards in exams have returned to pre-pandemic levels, with an increased level of challenge and this will be the case again this summer, when that very cohort of young people taking these exams had such a disrupted foundation to their secondary journey. Our students continue to rise to the challenges they face, both in the classroom and beyond. With the Easter break, exams start very shortly after we return. I would ask our students to remember to keep on focusing and pushing through with the resilience they have shown to date. Their hard work will be worth it.

Wishing you all the best for a restful break.

Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

