



23rd May 2025

Dear Parents/carers

Another busy week for students sitting external examinations, following on from students in years 7, 8 and 9 completing their end of year assessments. Parents in years 7, 8 and 9 will be receiving the outcomes of these assessments in due course. As you know we have recently changed our Information System and we are looking at how this end of year data will look in the new format and will keep you updated. Year 10 and 12 students, as parents will have seen from Classcharts announcements, will complete their end of year assessments when we return from the break. These are a great way to establish a 'line in the sand' to see where students currently are and informing teachers of next steps to support them further. Thank you, in advance, for supporting the profile of these assessments at home.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

Staffing Update – Extended Leadership Roles

As is usual, I will update you all on the staff joining us in September in one of my weekly letters in term 6. However, there are sometimes the occasions where existing staff pick up new roles during the course of the year. This will be the case in term 6 for both Mrs Macleod and Mrs Davies.

Mrs Macleod will remain in her roles of Head of Health and Social Care and Head of Year in the 6th form. In addition, Mrs Macleod will be joining the Extended Leadership Team, taking on the specific remit of Standards Lead. This will mean she will work closely with students in years 10 and 11 to ensure they are supported to achieve their potential during their GCSE courses. Students in year 10 and 11 will remain in their tutor groups and their Houses. Mrs Macleod will be an extra layer of support to ensure all students achieve their very best. Mrs Macleod met the current year 10 students in an assembly on Wednesday this week and a separate letter is being sent home to those parents providing a summary of what was delivered.

Mrs Davies our current Publications and Development Officer will also be joining the Extended Leadership Team. Mrs Davies' remit is to ensure that we continue to develop the Enrichment and Rewards offered to students. She will oversee the House Competition and liaise with the staff in school and outside agencies to enhance our Curriculum Enrichment week offer. I am sure Mrs Davies will be keen to seek your views on any suggestions on ways to improve – so please watch this space.

YourSpace

The next YourSpace sessions running maths sessions for parents will take place after school on 10th & 17th June from 3-4pm, all are welcome.



The focus will be for year 9 and 10 parents and carers looking at the GCSE curriculum for the year, list of topics, sources of information and Maths support, Maths club after school and general tips on how to help.

Year 11 Locker Key returns

With year 11 students approaching the end of their exams, the Finance team have looked at the most opportune time for students to return their locker keys. The team will be available in the Green Lecture Theatre at the following times for students to return their keys:

- Friday 6th June – after the second English Language exam
- Wednesday 11th June – after the Maths Calculator exam

Start of Term 6

Term 6 starts on Monday 2nd June. All students are expected on site for an 8:30 am start. It will be a week 1.

INSET day - Monday 30th June

As a reminder the final INSET day of the year is scheduled for the end of June. Students are not expected on site. Teachers will be involved in planning and preparation for next academic year.

Finally ... I am in the third year of recording daily events through the '1SecondEveryday' app and I find myself again at the end of term 5. Playing the completed films back, it is true that the last few years have led to some unexpected events. Who knew, for example, I would spend an evening enjoying some beverages with Danny Dyer and some other cast members from 'Rivals' when they were filming in Bristol? (I often have to check the photos myself to believe it actually happened). Despite the surprising images that pop up during the film, for the most part the year to date, just as last year, has consisted of the familiar routine of the school calendar; September INSET, Christmas carols, the odd snow flurry, a change to springtime weather, leavers' events and usually a sunny end to term 5. I already know that next term's videos will include Sports Day, prom dresses, house championship winners announced and then beyond that the smiles of results' days when all the hard work will be rewarded. Some people could view the consistency of the school year monotonous and predictable. I find it completely the opposite with the predictability being a real comfort. So, as I would have said this time last year, enjoy your half term break and I look forward to seeing students in term 6.

Take care



Dee Elliott,
Head teacher

