

"For life, not school, we learn"

20th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

Our year 11 and year 13 students have made a wonderful start to their public examinations. They have been organised and upbeat showing superb resilience and determination. The after-school mathematics GCSE preparation session on Thursday 19th May was very well attended. Teachers took students through a paper that we think will be similar to the one they will actually sit. During the session, students were given reminders of both the key learning points and examination strategy.

Students in years 7, 8 and 9 will be sitting their end of year examinations next week and we have been really impressed with how carefully they are revising

In July, we are hoping to make a start on refurbishing the space that will become our new library. Our aim is to have the new library and the new sixth form study space ready for the start of the new academic year. There may be a bit of disruption for students whilst the work is carried out, but I think we will all enjoy the newly decorated and equipped rooms when they are finished.

After the half term holiday, we will begin the transition work of moving students up to their next year. This means that we start thinking of, for example, current year 9 as year 10. Year 7 students will meet their new tutor and their new head of year, Miss Taylor. Their new tutor will stay with them until the end of year 11. Our year 7 tutors are all Heads of House and, along with the head of year 7, they stay as year 7 tutors so that they can get to know everyone in their house really well. Students in year 9 will meet their new head of year, Mr Law. All other year groups will move up with their current head of year. Our heads of year are specialists in supporting students within their key stage and work tirelessly to ensure that everyone gets the best possible support, encouragement and academic challenge.

A reminder that the last day of this half term is Friday 27th May. It is a normal school day with full uniform and finishes at 3.30pm as usual. As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we will also be having a 'Big Picnic' at lunchtime on the last day, students and staff are invited to eat their packed lunches or food purchased at the Rectory or Bertha's on the school courts together. Students are also

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invited to wear a red, white and blue themed accessory on this day, in addition to their usual full school uniform, should they wish.

Very best wishes,

Simon Underdown.

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Headteacher.











