



Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you as always for your support over the last half term and the positive feedback we have received from many of you throughout the year so far. In particular I want to thank you for your support in reducing the amount of time our students spend in King George's Park, it is vital that we, their parents and teachers, keep an eye on where they go and what they do for obvious reasons. Teenage years are a challenge as we know but this generation face much more than ever in terms of some of the risks around for them; keeping them safe and engaging with school in a positive way is always my over-riding priority.

Y11:

After half term we will be saying goodbye to Y11 after their final major exam and we will send home more details on the leaving date and assembly after the holiday. They have been a fantastic year group, supporting me and the staff in every step we have taken to improve the school. Their maturity has been exceptional and I am so proud of all of them. What matters now is that they complete their exams calmly and fulfil their potential, so please support them by making sure they are revising each day, attending the extra sessions and getting plenty of sleep. We are not yet granting study leave unless circumstances are exceptional, so any absence will be recorded as unauthorised and students are expected to be in school, maintaining their routines and attending revision lessons or revising, supervised, privately.

The prom is approaching, and that means we are making final decisions about who will be able to attend; it is not an automatic right, they must have a good behaviour record, especially throughout these last few weeks. You might want to let them know that any student who chooses to disturb the local community in any way on their last day here will be automatically refused access to the prom and could face a ban from the site (meaning someone would attend on their behalf for results, or they would be posted). This Y11 have shown themselves to be unlikely to engage in disruption on the last day and to be respectful of the reputation they create for us and the younger students – but for clarity, if they do let us, or each other, down at that last moment, there will still be consequences which would be a great shame.

Y10-7:

For all students, after half term, we will be stepping up our expectations around attendance and punctuality – there are still some students demanding to be allowed to go home for inappropriate reasons and too many who are late to school in the morning. The gates will close at 8.25am, after half term, late marks recorded for those not in form at 8.30am – and very late arrivals will be treated as absences and recorded as such, bringing all the difficulties of prosecution if it is frequent. Please note that medical appointments will still be granted as normal and I consider all discretionary requests.

Exams:

You do need to be aware that I am exploring the possibility of running additional top sets within the timetable next year for some year groups, as we have a large number of students beginning to make faster progress than previously and they all need to be pushed to achieve their best. Exams this summer in all year groups will be extremely important in helping us determine the setting for next year, especially the top sets, so do encourage your child to prepare properly for these. If you have any questions on this, please do get in touch.

As always this final half term will end with various activities from Sports Day to Reward trips; it can get busy – please keep checking the website or follow us on twitter – and I hope you enjoy the sunshine with family and friends.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs J Langley

Principal - Mrs Jenny Langley