



14 May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you're well and the week has been a positive and profitable one. May I also wish Eid Mubarak to our Muslim MECE families.

### **Year 11**

This week has seen the start of our Year 11 Summer Assessment series and we have been delighted with how the students have conducted themselves in their respective examination venues. These assessments resume on Monday and last until Thursday. One can't help but feel for this group of students who have had so much of their GCSE course disturbed by lockdowns and isolations. However, fingers crossed they have been able to show us their best possible work as we strive to construct their Teacher Assessed Grades over the next few weeks.

### **Year 10**

My leadership team and the Head of Year 10 have now turned our focus to Year 10 and how best we can ensure that these students get the best possible deal as we endeavour to ensure any gaps in learning are filled, that confidence is boosted and the students are fully aware of what their options are moving forwards. We have some great plans for the next few weeks including motivational speakers, careers workshops and revision guidance.

### **Post MECE destinations**

In terms of Year 11 destinations and pathways from MECE I have been really pleased by the breadth of choice that Year 11 are currently indicating that they will reach. These include

- The Downs Sixth Form
- Piggott Sixth Form
- Henley College
- Farnborough College
- Highdown Sixth Form
- Reading College
- BCA
- Kendrick School
- A number of excellent apprenticeship options

I think the array of choices demonstrates the high quality of careers support that our students receive.

### **Clothing fund raiser**

Thank you so much to all the parents that contributed to CESAs Bags to School drive. As a result of this community initiative which saw over 20% of our parents contribute to, the school has earned £100 in school equipment vouchers.

## **Homework**

Please can I ask that you ensure homework is completed on a regular basis. Our weekly Maths homework is particularly important and is set each Friday for the following Friday. The work is differentiated and the quantity is also tailored according to ability so should be accessible to all. In addition, both on Wednesday break and after school on Wednesday the Maths team are available to support students who need a little extra help.

## **Extra-curricular opportunities**

Follow this [link](#) to our current extra-curricular opportunities. The list, for such a small school, is wide and varied and shows a real passion from the staff. Please encourage your children to participate in as wide a range of activities as possible.

## **Police**

Next week we are pleased to welcome two Police Officers from Henley Police Station into school. They will deliver assemblies to years 7-10. The assemblies will cover knife crime and its consequences, as well as the laws around carrying weapons. We feel these assemblies are an important part of our proactive approach to keeping our students safe. However, in light of recent local events there may be students who will find the content particularly triggering. If you feel this applies to your child, please contact their Head of Year by the end of the day on Monday 17 May.

## **Anti-Bullying procedures**

I also wanted to share with you our strategies to deal with bullying. Bullying is an awful thing and we are committed through our work to ensure that students understand respect and tolerance and to celebrate difference. However, when it does occur we must ensure it is dealt with appropriately, sensitively yet robustly. I therefore wanted to share with our strategies and procedures so that you may understand what occurs when the school identifies a case of bullying and the range of methods we use to deal with this. Please follow this [link](#) to our actions following a report of a suspected bullying incident.

## **External Review**


As mentioned last week we had a review of the school by senior members of the Trust and Ms Davies, our CEO, will be writing to you early next week regarding the outcomes. As you will see from her letter we have so much to be so proud of in terms of our standards and our journey. There are so many exciting plans afoot for what comes next but I am delighted at what has already been achieved in a relatively short time.

## **Students of the week**

My students of the week this week are Ronnie K in Year 11A- consistent high-level effort and Sophia J in Year 10 for such positive attitude to classwork. In addition, Corey D in Year 9 for completing his referee training recently and refereed his first official matches last week. All three students embody the values of the school and in different ways are striving to better themselves and make the most of their opportunities.

Please use the fab and drab links to leave us any feedback you may have.

Take care and have a great weekend.



Andy Hartley  
Headteacher

