

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

6th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

May I extend a very happy new year to you all and I hope you were able to have a wonderful and relaxing Christmas Break. It has been lovely to welcome our students back to school following their holidays. Can I also thank our Year 13 students for a very positive start to their Year 13 mock examinations. We wish them all well over the next week.

We are aware that as a busy school we have several key dates for over the rest of this academic year and so want to share these with you by year group. These details will be sent to all parents at the start of next week. Also, as I am sure you are already aware, there is an additional bank holiday on Monday 8th May to mark the Coronation and our next INSET days are 10th February and 21st July 2023. We will also be publishing on our website the term dates and INSET days for next academic year in due course.

Homework

Students have been introduced to the new approach to Homework this week and the Wellbeing tasks they have been set for the coming week/s are awaiting them on ClassCharts. We are no longer using Firefly as a platform for setting homework, so your child must be able to access ClassCharts. Please support your child by making sure that they have the ClassCharts app downloaded and are logged in or by ensuring they can access ClassCharts from a laptop or PC. They can ask their form tutor for their code if they do not have it.

All parents/carers who had not accessed ClassCharts for a month were automatically sent their code at the end of last term to support with downloading the app and logging on or accessing from a laptop or PC. If you are still struggling to log on, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Your child will be re-issued with their code via email, so that they have them sitting in their inbox for easy access in the event of being logged out.

On ClassCharts you can:

- ✓ View your child's timetable
- ✓ View your child's merits/behaviour points
- ✓ View detentions and subject support sessions (please note that these appear in the 'Detentions' tab – a quirk of ClassCharts)

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LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP View your child's homework – it is worth noting that tasks are categorised into 'to be submitted' and 'to be completed'. If a task is 'to be submitted' the class teacher is requesting that your child uploads a file to the app; this can be done on a phone, PC or tablet. If a task is 'to be completed' there is no requirement for anything to be uploaded.

School Health Nurse Webinars

The School Nursing Team at Sirona Care & Health are offering a series of free webinars for parents and carers covering topics around children and young people's health and wellbeing. The next webinar is on 16th January - for more details or to book a space please see the flyer below.

School Health Nurse Webinars Flyer 2023

Sixth Form Certificate Evening

The 6th Form team were delighted to see so many former students and their parents attend a very informal presentation of KS5 certificates on 5th January – it is always lovely to reconnect with our alumni.

Lates

Just a reminder for parents / carers that students are expected to be onsite by 8.40am, and at tutor bases by 8.45am. If they have any errands to do before school, such as dropping off Food Tech ingredients, students need to ensure that they leave sufficient time to do this before the start of tutor time. We will be continuing to text parents / carers of students who are late to school, and we thank you in advance for your support in ensuring your child / children arrive at school on time.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend

Yours sincerely

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Ms L Blundell Headteacher