

As the dust begins to settle on the new term, it's pleasing to see that our messages to students are being heeded - apart from a very small number of students who are not yet fully in tune with the school's ethos and values, the vast majority are increasingly focused on demonstrating a "positive attitude to learning", "high levels of commitment" and showing "respect for all". Uniform generally looks outstanding and the good news from our highly apologetic supplier is that those parents still waiting for items should find them in the post any day soon. Our focus on equipment checks has also revealed that, apart from a very small number of students, most have well-stocked pencil cases that indicate a pleasing level of organisation and preparation. I'm also delighted that, for most students, these same qualities are in evidence when completing Home Learning tasks. As ever, we would urge all parents to play a proactive role in monitoring and supporting with Homework so for those of you who are yet to log on to Show my Homework, please make best use of this fantastic tool. If you are struggling to set yourselves up with the app, please contact your child's form tutor asap, as it is imperative that all students and parents have access to all home learning tasks and any supportive resources that their subject teachers have shared.

Also on the subject of helping parents, next week, on Thursday, 20th September, we are really looking forward to seeing all parents of Y9 and Y10 to share thoughts on how best you can support your child's learning in GCSEs. Last year, this was a very well received session that focused on practical ways of supporting effective revision as well as aiding parents' understanding of the courses and how they are assessed, with a specific focus on Maths and English. At the end of the evening, senior colleagues will be on hand to answer any specific questions that you may have but, in the meantime, do get in touch if there is anything that needs addressing urgently.

Looking ahead to next week and beyond, Y11 parents should note that after school revision sessions have already commenced in some subjects. Foundation and Higher tier students have their own bespoke session every Monday night after school and French students have time scheduled on Tuesdays. As the term progresses, more subjects will be phased in and we would ask parents to make amendments to travel arrangements so that students can make their way home at 4.30pm rather than 3.20pm. Mr Chapman, Head of KS4, has also press-ganged a number of colleagues to volunteer to supervise the study Hub, a great space where Y11 students can go every lunchtime and each evening after school until 4.30pm to complete additional study and/or revision tasks. To enable students to work more effectively and get as much out of the sessions as possible, parents please note that we strongly recommend having a quick drink and a snack beforehand.

On the sporting front, our two new PE teachers, Miss Mackinnon and Miss Temple, have both settled very quickly and are offering a range of extra-curricular activities with a very positive reaction from our girls. We have also had some notable successes in the Area Football trials with Josh Hammett and Josh Newell being selected for the area team - congratulations! On Wednesday evening, a number of our high performing students were also invited to attend the Hambleton and Richmondshire School Sports Association awards evening to celebrate their outstanding achievement. We will endeavour to publish more details next week via our Facebook page and also via the PE Departments' Twitter feed.

Some advance notice to Y7 parents is that, on Thursday, 27th September, there will be an opportunity to meet with your child's form tutor and discuss any concerns arising from transition. The evening starts from 4pm with individual time slots. A letter and booking sheet will be shared early next week, pupils need to see their form tutors to book an appointment. We are looking forward to meeting all our Y7 parents/carers and sharing some positive feedback from the year so far. It will also be a great opportunity for you to discuss any issues which may have popped up in the first few weeks of term.

Miss Cropper has asked me to let students/parents know that the after school Drama Club will be starting on Tuesday, 18th September from 3.30-4.30pm, all students welcome.

Mr Childe would like to send a reminder for Y10 and Y11 students going on the Iceland trip next year, that the second instalment of **£175.00 is payable by Friday, 21st September**.

Attachments

- Y9/10/11 Science Revision Guide and Text Book letter.
- Y10 Duke of Edinburgh Letter.
- Letter and advert from the Headteacher for Y6 Open Evening.
- Y11 Updated Post-16 College Information.