



29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the fourth term and the formal GCSE and A level examinations start within a matter of weeks. This term has been characterised by very challenging weather conditions – our congratulations go to the students for their care and consideration of others and also for getting to school on time. Attendance is a key priority and I would like to draw your attention to the letter in the newsletter; specifically, on how low attendance can impact on long term outcomes and opportunities.

Our sporting success has continued throughout this term. Huge Congratulations to our U19 Football Team, who became the 2018 East Berkshire Champions on the 28<sup>th</sup> March! Huge thanks go to Ashley Smith and his coaching team for all their hard work. Abbie Jones, Year 11, won a silver medal in the final Cross Country race in the Chiltern League at Milton Keynes on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Her team also won a team bronze for her club MAC (Maidenhead Athletics Club), which is the first in their history for U17 girls. Katie Crowhurst, Year 9, continues to excel in swimming and has broken even more records. During the Summer half term Katie will be representing Great Britain at the Para Swimming World Series being held in Sheffield, England. Molly Horler, Year 13, has been selected for the Wasps' Centre of Excellence as part of the England Rugby player pathway. Our sports team are going from strength to strength with wins in all year groups for football and netball; in fact, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March the Year 7 Girls Netball team won all their matches making Cox Green Year 7's the overall winners of the Windsor and Maidenhead League (a culmination of many league tournaments). Congratulations to all our sporting champions - incredible dedication and team work shown. It is fantastic to see so many of our students enjoying success in so many extra-curricular activities. Please do share any newsworthy items and success stories with us as we do like to hear about good news!

Our musical talent is incredible. Huge congratulations go to Liam Talbot for his incredible work in organizing Rocks Green. It was an amazing evening and showcased the talents of students across KS4 and KS5 as well as raising over £500; nearly £300 of which has been donated to the Nordoff Robbins Musical trust charity in memory of Bryony Hollands a former student. This was followed a week later by the fantastic leavers concert – well done to all those who participated. Congratulations must also go to Sienna Eden in year 9 who won 2 gold medals and a bronze for her flute playing in the Woodley Festival. Incredible achievements by all.

Our trips and visits continue to enrich our students' curriculum. Students have had the opportunity to participate in theatre visits and had visiting theatre groups perform at school – The Globe Players and Roughshod; visiting authors came to speak to students in year 7s; our A level Art group were invited to visit Windsor Castle and our Year 9 's were able to participate in a Philosophy and politics workshop. Year 8 students spent a week at Surrey university and the Science department celebrated Science week with gusto. These are but a sample of the many trips and visits on offer. Thanks must go to all the staff who so willingly give up their time to take our students; our students for their excellent behaviour and also to Mrs Feetham who arranges, organises and ensures that every aspect is covered to make sure the trip will be a success.

As you are aware the school lesson bells developed a fault and we have spent much of the term without bells. We have since noticed that the removal of the bells between lessons has had a positive impact on the behaviour of students moving around school, removing a number of "bottlenecks" as well as creating a much calmer atmosphere. We will be re-introducing bells after the Easter break to signal the beginning of the day and the end of break times. This coincides with the reallocation of the tutor bases to improve the communication within year groups and further develop the tutor programme. This will also give us more opportunities to develop inter-house and inter-form activities.

The building project continues to grow – the building is almost water tight with the outside glass panels soon to be fitted. Internally, work has already begun on planning the layout for the new Maths classrooms and the final plans for the new Dine@coxgreen restaurant, including the furniture, are almost finalised. This will be an incredible facility for all our students.

Year 11 and 13 students have now finished their second series of Mock exams; feedback from these examinations will provide them with the final areas for preparation for their upcoming examinations. We wish them every success with their revision over the Easter holidays. Intervention will be taking place the week beginning the 9<sup>th</sup> April for named students – please encourage your child to attend if they have been asked. Our thanks go to all the teachers who are always willing to go above and beyond to support the students.

We are extremely proud of the community minded students who continue to be involved with various charities this term. Our final fundraising activity this term will be a Mufti Day on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March raising money for the Brain Trust foundation and Great Ormond Street Hospital in memory of Maggie Mae Morgan. We hope to see lots of silly hats and crazy hairstyles.

Sadly, we say goodbye to Miss Girle, one of our English teachers, who is leaving us to work at Ranelagh School and also to Mr McAlaney who will become Deputy Head at Bulmershe School after Easter. We wish them both every success in their new roles. As you may already know Mr Hillyard has been appointed Headteacher at Holmer Green School and will be leaving us at the end of the summer term; I am delighted to inform that we have appointed Mr Daniel Edwards to be our new Deputy Head from September. After Easter we welcome Ms Charlotte Bishop as Associate Assistant Head and Mr Steve Bailey Young as our new Learning Leader for Computer Science. I am confident that they will be excellent additions to the school.

Please do remember there is an opportunity for parents/carers to discuss any issues or concerns directly with me at our regular Headteacher's Surgery. Our next session will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May: please contact my PA Mrs MacKenzie to arrange an appointment. The surgeries have been very successful so far and it has been lovely to meet so many of you.

The first day back after Easter is Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Please do check the website and newsletter for upcoming events.

Thank you all for your continued support of the school.  
Kind regards

Frances Walsh  
Headteacher