



15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted that so much of this term has been focussed on celebrating so many student successes. Each year group has held a hot chocolate reward event for students who have displayed impeccable behaviour over the course of the year to date. In addition, we have had 43 students achieve their Bronze award, 11 achieve Silver and Diana Pascu in Year 7 must be recognised for being the first student this year to be awarded Gold. Huge congratulations to them all, they really are a shining example to the rest of the school.

Miss Killick hosted a number of African Drumming sessions with Wessex Primary which have been so successful, another primary has asked if they can get involved too! The PE Department hosted the Inter-House Sport competition involving Years 7, 8 and 9 and the winners will be announced next term in assemblies. Year 7 students truly excelled with the Tudor projects in History and the teaching staff were extremely impressed with the level of engagement in creating the amazing houses, castles and boats. We had cakes, matchstick houses, wooden models with hinged rooves and I thank all the parents who assisted with these. I am sure you enjoyed the experience as much as they did!

We were delighted to welcome a number of Year 5 students from Lowbrook to the matinee performance of The Wizard of Oz which I know they absolutely loved! This year our school performance involved students in younger years in key roles which was lovely to see and should be acknowledged. The hard work and effort that goes in to these events is outstanding and I must thank all the performers, musicians, back stage helpers, costume designers and artists led by Mrs Lane and Miss Charles who invest so much in making the performances so professional.

Year 8 have been very busy this term, making decisions on their GCSE courses, meeting with Mrs McKay to discuss Careers advice and participating in workshops run by a number of external speakers. We are extremely lucky to have an on-site Careers service and Mrs McKay has worked hard to develop a great network of support that we are able to tap into for students in each year group. The Year 11 "You're Hired" event in January proved to be exceptionally successful, with one student being offered an interview for an apprenticeship at Microsoft.

Year 11 and Year 13 will be sitting Mock exams in March and a full timetable has been published on the website. In addition, a number of intervention sessions have been planned in for students in the coming weeks and I would stress the importance of attending these to give students the best chances of success in the summer exams.

We have had a huge number of applications to our 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Year 11 students have been invited to attend an interview on their return to school next term. Parents are welcome to attend these meetings so please do contact Ms MacKenzie if you are unable to attend your son or daughter's session and an alternative appointment will be made.

Many of our Year 12 students have already secured work experience placements and Year 13 are well underway.

Cox Green students continue to impress with their sporting prowess – Dillon Cook has qualified for the Junior GB Rowing Squad in Boston. Dillon was talent spotted two years ago when taking part in Mr Gullick's "Row to Tokyo" event in conjunction with Sky Sports. Our superstar athletes Luke Hynes and Abbie Jones have both qualified to run for Berkshire Schools in Leeds, in March. We have a number of incredible footballers, Cameron Chapman and Aaron Jones who continue to shine in the Berkshire squads and Megan and Malaika who are well on their way to international footballing careers.

The ski trip is taking place over half term, and over 40 History students attended a Year 11 trip to Auschwitz which was hugely moving for all involved and Year 8 engaged with a series of workshops for Holocaust memorial day organised by Miss Taylor and Miss Kiely which were extremely impactful.

Sadly, we are still receiving a lot of reports from the community that a number of students are riding their bikes irresponsibly. I really cannot stress the importance of road safety for both pedestrians and cyclists. All students who ride to school MUST wear a cycle helmet and ride in a safe and appropriate manner and those walking to school should be using the pedestrian crossing.

Please do have a restful half term, and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February for the start of the new term.

Yours sincerely

Frances Walsh  
Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> -Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Ski trip to Andorra
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February: Start of Term 4
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb: Sports Academy Open Evening 6.30pm to 8pm
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Year 7 & 8 Flexible Curriculum Day
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Comic Relief—Non School Uniform Day— Own clothes but must wear something RED (No low cut tops, crop tops, ripped jeans.)
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Inset Day – school closed to students
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Year 9 Careers interviews
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March: Headteacher’s Surgery
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April: End of Term – school closes at 12.45pm
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Term 5 begins