



20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I am sure our students are breathing a huge sigh of relief that they have reached the end of term and the end of their exams! We have all been extremely impressed with the maturity and commitment shown by them all in working towards these exams and we look forward to some positive results in the January reports!

I am delighted that so many of our students continue to excel in areas out of school. Year 11 student Katie Crowhurst has been selected for the British Para Swimming team and Year 10 student Toby Gillard has been awarded Junior Strength Academy Sports Personality of the Year!

Following a session run by Foodbank at school, four of our pupils now volunteer each week on a Wednesday evening. They are not doing this as a Community Service towards any award, but simply because they wanted to. Joe Poots shaved his head for the Cancer Charity Wigs and a number of students have volunteered within the community, assisting at Lowbrook and Manor Green.

We had a number of trips this term: Year 8 visited Kew Gardens, Business Studies students visited Microsoft, Sixth Form students attended Science, Media and University trips as well as the Safe Drive presentation.

Mr Edwards has developed two new initiatives that have been launched this term. Our Anti Bullying Well group has been setup to ensure that students learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment without fear of being bullied. Our ambassadors have been trained by the Diana Anti Bullying ambassadors and have begun to work with students during Break 2 on Tuesday and Thursdays in F6. Students are encouraged to report concerns using the email: [reportbullying@coxgreen.com](mailto:reportbullying@coxgreen.com)

The second initiative developed by Mr Edwards is the Wellbeing Group. A number of our students are the first to be trained by Relate as Wellbeing Ambassadors, focussing on ensuring that pupils are able to make the most of their educational opportunities regardless of their background or financial circumstances and through promotion of attendance at school. A student's health and wellbeing is dynamic and changeable. It is key that all pupils at Cox Green are able to aspire and succeed within our school. The group meets on Tuesday and Thursday's break 2 in F1 and all students are welcome.

We are extremely proud of our KS3 boys and KS4 girls who qualified for the Badminton County Finals in February. This was the first time we had achieved this and I am delighted that we are now the host school and will run the qualifiers every year! I am also impressed by the huge uptake in the rugby sessions which we have offered for the first time in 5 years! Over 50 boys and girls signed up and the sessions will run throughout the year. Our Sports Academy football team won 5-0 against Hungerford and go into the Christmas break second in the National League.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening was a huge success and we already have an unprecedented number of applications. A gentle reminder to all Year 11 students that the deadline for applications is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 and all applications are made on line: please visit our website [www.coxgreen.com](http://www.coxgreen.com) to make your application!

We are sadly saying goodbye to a number of staff this term, Mr Martin, Mr McDonough, Miss Tompkins and Ms Grist. On behalf of the whole school, I must also bid a sad farewell and extend huge thanks to Mr Foster who is leaving us after eleven years of incredible service as a teacher, Head of Year and Staff Governor. It really will not be the same without him!

We are excited to welcome a number of new teaching staff: Mr Brown joins us in the Business Studies department, Mr Borgia in Music, Ms Coxon in English, Mr Pearce in Maths and Ms Byerley and Ms Mohebi in Science. Mrs Smith will be on maternity leave from next term and I am delighted that her role will be shared between Mrs West and a new member of staff, Ms Bunn. We also welcome Ms Rapsey back from her maternity leave in January.

It was lovely to see so many of you at our annual winter concert and I look forward to seeing lots of you at the School production, Beauty and The Beast in January. Tickets go on sale on Squid on the 8<sup>th</sup> January, please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment! We have several new students in lead roles and a bigger cast than previous performances and I know they would appreciate your support!

The fabulous staff in DINE served up 360 Christmas Dinners to students and staff over the last week and Year 7 were by far the loudest and most enthusiastic singers!

Before I close, a couple of quick safety reminders: please do ensure that students cycling to school have a cycling helmet and working lights on their bicycles. A number of students are not using the crossing when crossing the road and this is causing concern to residents and passing drivers. Finally, students who arrive at school by bus must come straight onto school site and not visit the local shops or park. Please do remember that students are representing the school when wearing the school uniform, and there is an expectation that they behave in a fitting manner when in the community.

I look forward to seeing students back at school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Please do ensure that your children are equipped with the correct items of uniform, equipment and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or concerns.

Thank you to on behalf of staff for all the thoughtful and generous Christmas gifts students have given to staff, it is much appreciated!

Wishing all students and their families a Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year

With kind regards

**Frances Walsh**  
**Head Teacher**

Dates for the Diary:

- January 2020 Y11 revision and coping with exam anxiety evening (Date tbc due to speaker)
- 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 Year 8 Parents Evening
- 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 Headteacher surgery for parents
- 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020 Year 8 Options Evening
- 12-14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 School Musical

- 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020      Open Evening for Sports Academy