



4 November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Update

Welcome back after the October half term, I hope you managed to have a break. The students look rested and it has been good to hear from examination students that they found the time to revise and relax valuable. The students who took advantage of the supervised private study in the first week seemed to enjoy having the structure and quiet so we will run this again if there is interest.

There were some fabulous trips and visits over the break. Politics students had a wonderful time in the state capital Washington DC and New York and Creative Writers enjoyed an inspirational visit to Venice to stimulate their creativity. Our girls and boys Hockey players (U15) had a very successful tour to Amsterdam. Thank you to all the staff for making these opportunities happen.

The school was busy too with students rehearsing for this term's Senior Play, Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge* which we look forward to in December.

This week started with a trip to Parliament for our politics students; it is encouraging to hear how this and the recent, successful Question Time Event has contributed to a number of our students considering politics as a future career - we look forward to #Te Digna Sequere represented in government. English students saw the fantastic new production of another Arthur Miller play, *The Crucible* at the National too last night. It's not easy to get a ticket but it is worth a visit.

Coming up this week we have EPQ night this Monday where our Year 13 students will be presenting on their independent research projects - this is an excellent evening of academic celebration. Students and parents from all years are welcome. And of course, on Wednesday we have Sixth Form Open Evening which will be an opportunity for Year 11 students, parents and students from other schools to start considering possible courses for next year. After Wednesday, there will be lots of opportunities for students and parents to continue asking teachers and current sixth form about subjects.

We would also like to make Year 11 parents aware that they have their MFL (Modern Foreign Languages) mock GCSE speaking exams in the week commencing Monday 21 November. This is a great opportunity for them to have a practice experience which will really help them for their real exam.

Parent Events

I would like to remind all parents that there are some parent workshops coming up next week too. We would like to give our parents opportunities to come into school to find out more about the personal development work we do here and to get involved in discussion. I would like to thank everyone who attended the SEND workshop this week and for contributing so valuably to the discussions. Coming up on Thursday we have parent workshops on:

E Safety - 5.30 p.m. (Teas and coffees from volunteer parents beforehand) followed by coffee break and

Relationships and Sex Education at 6.30 p.m.

You can book tickets for either or both of these free workshops. We very much value your involvement and contributions. Thank you to the Friends of Borlase for providing the refreshments. And please do buy a ticket for Dr Lucy Foulkes talking about teenage mental health on **November 16th. Tickets are on the website - scroll down to Box Office on the homepage.** This workshop is open to parents of other schools if you would like to bring guests. There is a limit on numbers however so please do book ahead - she is very interesting.

And finally, a couple of requests to save you and our staff time and ensure messages reach the right people.

Medical Absence

Please use **absence@** and **sixthformabsence@** to report absences and appointments. Please do not use school gateway or parents@ as this may cause a delay in the information being received by the correct person. Mr Stevens, our Attendance Officer checks the absence emails every morning at 8.00 a.m so using this address ensures your message is with him.

Medical concern in the school day

If by any chance your child contacts you in the school day feeling unwell, please tell them to go to the Health and Wellbeing office to see Mrs Goodman who will support them and contact you if needed. Please don't just come and collect them from school. There is always someone available in our Medical Room to support them. Likewise if there are ever any changes to your child's medical needs, please do call 01628816545 or email healthcare@swbgs.com

Punctuality and Transport

Punctuality to school is very important. Please ensure that if your child uses public transport they take an early enough bus or train; if they are walking or being driven please set off taking into account that traffic can be busy getting into Marlow.

Thank you everyone for your continued support as ever,

Best wishes,

Kay Mountfield,
Headteacher