



Newsletter

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Spring Term Issue 9 Friday 29 January 2016

Dear parents and carers

The term is racing on, with only two weeks to go before the February half term break. Can I remind everyone that the half term ends on Friday 12th February, which is Review Day for Y7, Y8, Y9 and Y10 when they have an interview with their form tutor, whilst Y11 have a personalised timetable and are in school for the full day until 2.40pm. Parents and students will be asked to make appointments with form tutors in the next few days and students will be completing their Review Day Booklets in advance of their interviews.

A fantastic 77% of Y11 students and parents attended a Revision Evening on Wednesday 27th January, to boost their revision skills and motivation as they prepare for their second mock GCSE examinations. Advice was given on revision strategies and learning styles, as well as subject specific advice about the examination requirements from English, Maths, Science and RS. Families were also able to meet teachers from other subject areas to discuss both progress and exam preparation. This is a key time for our Y11 students, who need to make the most of every lesson in school, attend intervention sessions and ensure they are doing sufficient independent work at home. The key message from the evening was probably – Practise, Practise and Practise! Then Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse! Just like Andy Murray or Johanna Konta – practising their serves and forehand volleys relentlessly, then rehearsing them in a real match situation – our students need to practise (revise) for example what Christians believe about the after life, then rehearse their answer by doing a past exam question. **All Powerpoint slides from the evening are available on our website for students and parents to go over at their leisure.** Y10 students – it would also be a good idea to take a look!

Y10 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 20th January was well supported with around 85% of parents/ carers in attendance. Our aim is to ensure our Y10 students are on track to reach their challenging targets and to intervene as early as possible where this is not the case.

Y9 Parents' Evening and Options Evening is next on Wednesday 10th February – as Y9 students also reach a milestone in their education and prepare for their GCSE option subject choices.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best Wishes

Mrs G Middlemas

climbing higher!

Calendar

February 2016

04.02.16
Walking, Talking Mock exam—Y11 English

08.02.16
Y11 2nd Mock Exam Week

Governors' Resources Committee

10.02.16
Y9 Parents' Evening includes Options

12.02.16
Review Day Y7-Y10 Y11 Day

School closes 3pm for Half Term break

22.02.16
School re-opens to students

March 2016

01.03.16
Art exam—group 1

02.03.16
Art exam—group 2 Y8 Parents' Evening

14.03.16
Y7 /Y8 Exam week

21.03.16
Full Governors' Meeting

24.03.16
School closes at 3pm

25.03.16—28.03.16
School closed for Good Friday and Easter Monday



Information for parents/carers

Austria Ski Trip

The 2nd deposit of £100 is due next week (1st February 2016). Payments must be made using ParentPay.

Registration for school events

We are introducing a new system at school to allow parents/carers the opportunity to register for school events using the school website. This would be an alternative to completing a tear off slip which is then handed in at school. We are trialling this system for the forthcoming Year 9 parents/options evening scheduled for Wednesday 10th February. Students in Y9 were given information during assembly on Thursday, as to how to use the system and we encourage all parents and carers to give it a go! Simply go to the school's website and click on the 'Open evenings' page. If you have any problems using the system, please contact Mrs Oxford who will be more than happy to help.

Open evenings

See the school for yourself and talk to staff and students at one of our open days or evenings



Hearts and Voices

The school choir are very excited to have been given the opportunity to work with opera star Sean Ruane this half term. Sean has been delivering singing workshops with the students in preparation for their involvement in the 'Hearts and Voices' concert at Blackburn Cathedral on Friday 12th February. Our choir will be singing alongside students from other local Primary and Secondary schools.

Internet Safety

February 9th 2016 is Safer Internet Day. We are having a series of assemblies on this theme around this time, however there are many resources available online for parents to help them keep their children safe. Many parents are not sure where to begin on this topic. The website www.saferinternet.org.uk is a great starting point. Also, it is really important to chat with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online.

Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions may help.

1. Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.
2. Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is okay and not okay to share?
3. Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block the services they use.
4. Encourage them to help someone! Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
5. Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

Students Involved in PGCE Lecture

On Friday 8th of January students from Yr9 and Yr10 travelled to Edge Hill University to help Mr Cawley deliver a PGCE lecture to 50 graduate student teachers. Our students were involved in the application side of the theory and were taught by four small groups on topics such as bones and muscles. After the lecture was finished students were given a tour of the campus looking at the amazing facilities on offer at Edge Hill University. Well done to Megan Addy, Alex Lord, Thomas Offley, Kyle Brooks, Charlie Hoyle, Thomas Stringer, Ella Dickinson, Jessica Turner and Bethany Hall.

Climbing higher!

Students of the Week

Science

Archie Speight—Y7
Maisie Leech—Y7
Paris Pittilla—Y8
Jack Myatt—Y9
Ben Harrison—Y9
Jack Banks—Y10
Chloe Brown—Y10
Chloe Calderbank—Y10
Natalie Jeppesen—Y10
Holly Higginbottom—Y11
Ellie Peczernej—Y11

Biology

Megan Chippendale—Y11
Joshua Goggins—Y11

English

Alicia Varnom—Y7
Michael Kelly—Y7
Dominic Madden—Y7
Morgan Whipday—Y8
Owen Wright—Y8
Jorga Slicker—Y8
Charlotte Inger—Y9
Zeliang Tang—Y9
Sophie Greenwood—Y9
Hollie Dews—Y10
Joseph Wood—Y11
Hannah Mills—Y11



Learning Journal of the Week

Sophie Brook—7C
Katie Heath—7G
Maria Quigley—7G
Jodie Whatmough—7G
Hannah Smallwood—9G
Sian Morton—10N

