

Year 8 Autumn/Spring Term 2019/20 Newsletter



8 January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year! We hope that the students feel well rested and ready for a positive term ahead. It was a busy autumn term for Year 8 with some fantastic trips; the Geography Department visited the Olympic Stadium in London and students also had the opportunity to visit Hampton Court Palace with the History Department. Students described how much they enjoyed the experience to learn outside the classroom and staff reported how proud they were of the students. It was also a pleasure to meet so many of you in October at the information evening and we look forward to seeing you again at the subject evening later this month (January 29th).

Team 8

There has been one change of tutor this term, with Miss Dal leaving 8.1, and Mrs Berry replacing her. We also welcome Miss Roberts to the team, taking over the role within the leadership of the Year 8 team from Mrs Gallagher who is on secondment at Foxford School. In addition to the staff listed below, we also have the direct support of two Student Support Mentors, Mr Holding and Mr Upton in order that the students have as much support as possible.



Miss Roberts
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Bennett
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Lomas
Year Leader



Mr Faulkner
Pastoral Leader



Mr Frankish
Progress Leader

8.1 Mrs Berry
8.2 Mr Wood
8.3 Miss Bywater
8.4 Dr Gardiner
8.5 Miss McDonagh

8.6 Mrs Roberts
8.7 Mr Campbell
8.8 Mr Temple
8.9 Mr Ricketts

Coming up this term for Y8

We have highlighted the events to which parents and carers are invited, and hope to see you at the ones relevant to your child.

Wednesday 29 January

Monday 3 February – Friday 7 February

Tuesday 11 February

Friday 21 February

Saturday 22 February – Sunday 1 March

Thursday 9 April

Friday 10 April – Sunday 26 April

Year 8 Subject and Options Evening (3:15pm to 7:15pm)

Y8 Booster Week

Careers Fair (5:30pm to 6:30pm)

Teacher Day – students not in school

Half-term holiday

KS3 students not in school

Easter holiday

Skills 4 Life

We have had our first two half-terms of Skills 4 Life (S4L) during tutor time, covering leadership, organisation and teamwork. Feedback from the students showed that they enjoyed the challenges that go with the S4L programme. They will be taking on their organisation and teamwork challenge this half-term, and their resilience and respect challenge in the lead up to the Easter holidays.

Subject and Options Evening

On Wednesday 29 January you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their subject teacher. Information on how to make bookings will be sent out in due course. In addition to this, information will be available on the options choices for year 9. You will be able to pick up an options booklet for your child as you arrive, giving details of all the subjects available to them and the options process itself. There will be three identical talks in the dining room during the evening, at 4:30pm, 5:45pm, and finally at 6:45pm to explain how the process works. The teachers of each of the options subjects will also be available to answer your questions when you meet them.

Graduation

It was a real pleasure to see so many of our students graduate at the end of last term with those who graduated receiving a tutor party. Thank you for your support with the process, ensuring that so many Year 8 students had good attendance and in helping them to maintain a positive attitude to learning. We are very pleased that 77 members of our year group still have 100% attendance.

The graduation process starts again this term with all students' points resetting to zero and the graduation will take place at the beginning of April.

For students to graduate they need:

- Good attendance
- Good punctuality
- Positive behaviour
- Good progress
- Good attitude to learning both in the classroom and with Home Learning

We wish your child every success in the calendar year ahead. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs Lomas in the first instance. Thank you again for your support so far this year and we look forward to a successful and happy 2020.

From the Year 8 Team