

8 September 2023

ACADEMY UPDATE 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. We are looking forward to working together with you this year, to ensure that all students are making the most of all that we have to offer as a school.

We are really proud of our Year 11 students that left last year, on their excellent GCSE exam results. There was a record high number of students achieving a grade 4 and a grade 5 in both English and Maths. There were also some very impressive individual results, with several students achieving grades 8 and 9 for all of their exams. This was a real team effort; with teachers, support staff, parents, carers and of course the students themselves all contributing to these results. We are very proud that one student has been accepted for a place at Eton College and another at Eastbourne College.

News this week:

We have had a fantastic start to the year. Students are enjoying the new look atrium, with new seating, plants and sound bafflers. There has been some great feedback from students in terms of the 100-minute lessons, with many students saying the lessons seem to go quickly and that they are able to really get into tasks without having to stop and start again in the next lesson.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers that attended our Year 11 parents information evening. We are so happy with a great turnout of 95%, which we know will be hugely beneficial in supporting all of our Year 11 students to achieve the best grades possible. There were many useful discussions and a real sense of purpose about the evening. We have had some lovely feedback from this event, so thank you for this.

Upcoming events:

The Year 10 information evening is taking place on Thursday 14th September. As with the Year 11 information evening, this is to set out the year and for parents and carers to gather as much information as possible about Year 10.

Things for next week:

It has been very warm this week in school and so we made the decision that students did not have to wear blazers. Despite the warm weather, the students have looked very smart in their uniform and their new coloured ties. The forecast is to stay hot until Monday, and so we will continue with blazers being optional on Monday, before going back to compulsory blazers on Tuesday. Students are always able to take their blazers off in lessons and when sitting down to eat.

Please ensure that your child is not wearing any jewellery (only a stud in each ear is permitted) and is wearing black school shoes (no trainers). Also, no over the knee socks and the school badge needs to be visible on the school skirt.

Could you please top up your child's catering allowance via the school gateway.

With best wishes,



Mrs. E Gordon
Co-Principals



Dr. C Neal

Calendar Dates

2023-24 Academic Year Dates

Term 1

Thursday 14th September 2023 – Year 10 Information evening
Monday 18th September – Year 7 photos
Thursday 28th September – Open evening
Friday 29th September – INSET day (**Students do not attend**)
Tuesday 3rd October – Year 11 SEN Information evening
Thursday 5th October – Drama Scholars evening
Tuesday 10th September – Duke of Edinburgh Information evening
Thursday 12th October – KS3 (Year 7-9) Meet the tutor evening
Monday 16th October 2023 – Influenza vaccine
Friday 20th October – Last Day of Term 1

Term 2

Monday 30th October – First Day of Term 2
Friday 15th December 2023 – Last Day of Term 2

Term 3

Tuesday 2nd January 2024 – First Day of Term 3
30th January 2024 – Y8 HPV vaccinations
Friday 9th February 2024 – Last Day of Term 3

Term 4

Monday 19th February 2024 – First Day of Term 4
Tuesday 12th March 2024 – Year 9 Tetanus injections
Thursday 28th March 2024 – Last Day of Term 4

Term 5

Monday 15th April 2024 – First Day of Term 5
Monday 6th May 2024 – Bank Holiday
Friday 24th May 2024 – Last Day of Term 5

Term 6

Monday 3rd June 2024 – First Day of Term 6
Tuesday 23rd July 2024 – Last Day of Term 6