



13 January 2023

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope all is well and you have had a good week.

Online Safety

Online safety is something that evolves quickly, and some of you will already be aware of the online safety newsletters that are emailed by the school at points in the year. The flyer below details two forthcoming webinars should you wish to attend. The links to register for either of these webinars can be found through the link here.



Forthcoming Flu Immunisation Catch-up

Flu immunisation catch-ups for Years 7, 8 and 9 will take place on 18 January. These will be in the form of a nasal spray.





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Subject Stars of the Week

Religious Studies

Leon Tunmore - Year 8 - Leon has given all his studies 100% effort, both in terms of book work and his end of unit test. This has resulted in him smashing his target grade! Congratulations and keep up the fantastic work Leon!



Molly Denny - Year 10 - for excellent work and fabulous exam results

Modern Foreign Languages

Arianna Spalding - Year 7 German - contribution in class, effort and progress

Ben Livermore - Year 7 French - effort in lessons and progress in French

Tommy Best - Year 11 German - excellent effort, dedication to the subject and outstanding progress.



Bruna Ramalho - Year 11 Spanish - excellent effort, dedication to the subject and outstanding progress.

Window Replacement Work

After seven years of lobbying the Department for Education, we have finally been given a substantial grant to replace the windows at the front of the school.

The existing windows date back to the mid-1950s when the school was built, and are now certainly showing their age. We aim to replace them with aluminium, double glazed frames that will afford a more constant temperature in classrooms, all year round, eliminate drafts and reduce our energy costs.

Naturally there will be a level of disruption whilst these works take place, work in key areas are programmed to take place during school holidays and we have the capacity to re-room classes while other works go ahead.





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The consultants we are using to manage the project only work with schools and colleges and understand what needs to be done to ensure the safety of staff, students and visitors to the school during the construction phase and other specialist works.

The main part of the work will commence on 30 January and is programmed to be completed on 5 April – weather permitting.

We are very excited to be able to start these works after so long waiting and are grateful to the DfE for their grant of £500,000 to enable us to carry out this essential work.

Fencing Success – Freddy Treharne (Year 7)

Freddy had a fantastic end to the autumn term, being awarded two trophies for his achievements as part of the GY&W Fencing Club. He was made Junior Ladder Champion, losing only two matches all year in the club competitions. His sister Imogen (Year 8), came 3rd. Freddy also won the Easter Ladder and Christmas competitions last year!

In addition, Freddy was awarded Club Person of the Year for being kind and helping newcomers to the club. We are proud of Freddy's achievements and the fantastic attitude he has shown within his sport and club!



Year 9 Options Evening - Change of Date/Time

An important change of arrangements for Year 9 options evening. This now takes place on Tuesday 21 February 2023. The time of the event has also changed and will be from 6.00pm - 7.30pm. Year 9 families should have received a letter – **please find the time to complete the options trial survey** to help us look at how the options blocks work.

Year 11 Envelope Day

Year 11 got a taste of what it will be like to pick up their GCSE results in the summer – brown envelope day took place this week and they were presented with predicted grades. We hope they use the experience as motivation as we head into the final stretch.





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New Attendance Officer – Mr Tetley

I would like to introduce you to our new attendance officer Mr Tetley.

Mr Tetley's role is to monitor daily student attendance and work with families to develop relationships and to promote improvement in school attendance. This may involve implementing various supportive strategies and engaging with multi agency support to tackle any unsatisfactory attendance.

The expectation is that students attend for 100% of the academic year where possible. To assist with achieving this target, a reminder that it is parents/carers responsibility for making sure their child receives a suitable full time education. We are obviously aware that on occasions unforeseen circumstances arise, which mean that your child may be absent from school and attendance impacted.

In these circumstances please can parents/carers aim to adhere to the following:

- Please telephone or email the school absence line on EACH day of absence before the start of school
- Try to make medical/dental appointments out of school hours (if unable to please supply evidence of the appointment – letter, appointment card, screenshot of text)
- If your child is only mildly ill, they can attend school (if they deteriorate the school will contact you)
- **Avoid taking holidays in term time** (this may only be authorised if exceptional circumstances apply)
- Please ensure your child arrives at school on time before 8.40am ready to learn

The next page features a graphic of the impact on learning a student's attendance may have.





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98-100%	Excellent - Children are accessing all learning opportunities
96-97%	Good - Very few learning opportunities are missed
	Risk of underachievement
94-95%	Up to 10 school days absent in an academic year
Y /	High risk of underachievement
92-93%	 Up to 15 school days absent in an academic year
	Severe risk of underachievement
90-92%	 Upwards of 22 school days absent in the academic year
	Extreme risk of underachievement
< 90%	 Upwards of 22 school days absent in the academic year

Lunchtime Sports Clubs

Our fantastic PE staff run a range of lunchtime clubs across the week, and refresh what is offered at different points of the year. The latest programme features on the next page and is displayed around the school.

Kind regards and have a good weekend.

Ross Li-Rocchi

Head of School





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LUNCHTIME SPORTS CLUB JANUARY 2023

ALL CLUBS START AT 12.10

Day	Lunchtime
MONDAY	Year 10 & 11 Netball (HUP/RVI)
	Year 7 Football (ABA)
	Open Table Tennis (RGR)
	GCSE Football (MST)
TUESDAY	Year 8 Football (MST)
	GCSE Table Tennis (RGR)
	 Year 8 & 9 Netball (HUP/RVI)
	• Year 10 & 11 Football (CBA)
WEDNESDAY	All Years Badminton Club (RVI)
	Girls Football (MST/HUP)
THURSDAY	Year 7 & 8 Basketball (JWI)
	Year 9 Football (CBA)
	Open Table Tennis (RGR)
	Mixed Netball (RVI)
FRIDAY	Year 10 & 11 GCSE Swimming (MST)
	 Year 9, 10 & 11 Basketball (JWI)
	Year 7 Netball (RVI)
	• Year 7 & 8 Open Table Tennis (CBA)

EVERYONE WELCOME!!







