



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you again for all your support this half term. As always, we have had a huge range of activities and events. Highlights have included the Year 8 residential to Hagg Farm, several primary sports events led by our excellent Year 9 Sports Leaders, our production of Around the World in 80 Minutes, our Easter concert, and PTA Fashion Show. Thank you to parents and family members who have supported by attending these events, as well as our Author Event "Parenting Girls Safely through their Teens", Information Evening for parents of Year 11 students, and Year 7 Parents Evening.

Subject Reviews (INSPIRE: Innovation and Success)

During this term we have carried out a series of Subject Reviews in each area of the curriculum. The process involves lesson observations and learning walks, student work sampling and feedback from students, as well as discussions with the Head of Department. This has been a very positive process – we have seen many excellent examples of inspiring teaching, learning and progress. The students we have spoken to have been very reflective, thoughtful and articulate about their learning experiences, and staff have demonstrated their teaching skills and commitment to continuous professional and school development.

Deputy Headteacher Appointment (INSPIRE: Success)

During this half term we held a recruitment process for our new Deputy Headteacher, who will join the school in September. We received a large number of strong applications, and I am delighted to share the news with you that we have appointed Mr David Farnie. Mr Farnie is currently Assistant Principal at Nottingham Academy, and we look forward to him spending time getting to know the school in the summer term before he joins us in September.

Exam Preparation (INSPIRE: Perseverance and Success)

I have been very impressed by the aspiration, hard work and perseverance of our Year 11 students as the exam season approaches. I know that they have planned how best to use the Easter holidays to both recharge their batteries but also revisit and reinforce their learning. I look forward to see the students who will be using our study facilities in school and attending the intervention sessions run by staff. When we return to the school, students will be immersed in their Languages speaking exams, Art and Photography exams and GCSE PE moderation, as well as having their final mock exam. Please contact Mrs Matthews, Year 11 Progress Leader, or Mrs Floate, Assistant Headteacher (KS4), if you require more information about how best to support your Year 11 son/daughter in the run up to exams.

Our Year 10 students showed great responsibility in the first set of mock exams this term. I know this provided a valuable learning experience, and students are now working hard to ensure that they do even better when they sit their Science and English mock exams in the summer term.

Bramcote College 6th Form (INSPIRE: Nurture and Innovation)

We are working closely with the WHP Trust 6th Form that we share with Bramcote College to ensure that all of our students and parents know the benefits and opportunities offered by staying on into our 6th form. Many of our Alderman White Staff teach 6th form courses, for example Mrs Scurrah in History, Mr Allsopp in Government and Politics, Miss Crabtree in Physics and Mr Lea in Chemistry. The benefits of working with teachers who know you as you make the transition to post-16 courses cannot be underestimated. To support high quality personalised teaching and learning, from September 2019, 6th form students will receive a chromebook enabling them to access a huge range of electronic learning resources and activities. We will be running future events to ensure that students and parents have the opportunity to get to know, and feel part of, our 6th form.



School Uniform (INSPIRE: Integrity and Responsibility)

Thank you for all of your efforts to support and reinforce school uniform expectations at home. Please do check the uniform requirements on the school website if you are unsure. Please note that socks must be plain black or white and cannot be trainer socks, skirts must be knee length (touching the top of the knee is acceptable) and not tight fitting, and shoes must be plain black with no logos. Trainers are not permitted unless students have a doctor's note. Please also ensure you are aware of the jewellery and make up regulations.

School Attendance (INSPIRE: Responsibility and Success)

Thank you for your continued efforts to ensure that your son/daughter has the best possible school attendance. The percentage of students whose attendance is below 90% has fallen from 13 to 12.4%, although our overall attendance has reduced slightly by 0.1% to 95.4%. First bell goes at 8.45am to indicate that students need to be on site and lining up outside their tutor room. Students are welcome on site from 8.15am and can use the Dining Hall or Library from this time. Please encourage your son/ daughter to allow plenty of time for their morning routine and journey to school so that they are at school by 8.45am; this enables them to have a calm and positive start to the school day. Please contact Mrs L Philpot, our Attendance Officer, or your son/daughter's tutor or Progress Leader, if there is anything we can do to support your son/daughter's school attendance or punctuality.

PTA (Inspire: Engagement)

Congratulations to the PTA for organising a very successful fashion show this term, raising over £500, in addition to £200 raised through the ASDA green token scheme. These funds provide resources which are hugely valuable to our students. The PTA are a very friendly group and always welcome new members; they are next meeting on Wednesday 1st May at 6.30pm. Please do come along if you would like to get involved. The PTA are funding a parent information event on E-Safety on Wednesday 15th May at 6.30pm. Tickets will be available via Eventbrite.

Summer Term 1: Dates for your Diary

Please see below an overview of key calendar dates for Summer 1.

I hope you and your family have a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing students on **Tuesday 23rd April at 8.45am** for the start of the summer term.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Mellors
Head of School

April		
Tuesday 23rd	AW/ BC	Start of term
24 – 27 th	AW/BC	Paris and Disneyland Trip
24 th - 3 rd May	11	French Speaking Exams
Friday 26 th	11	Maths Mock Exam
Mon 29 th – Tue 30 th	11	Art Practical Exam
May		
Wednesday 1 st	AW	6.30pm: PTA Meeting – all welcome
Monday 6th	AW/BC	May Day Holiday
Tue 7 th – Wed 8 th	11	Photography Practical Exam
Monday 13 th – 25 th	AW/BC	GCSE & A-Level Exams
Wednesday 15 th	AW	7.00pm: PTA Parent E-Safety Event
22 nd	10	Y10 Reports published on Go4Schools
27th – 31st	AW/BC	Half Term Holiday

