



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

19 December 2024

Official Sensitive

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the end of a long term, I wanted to update you on some events of note as well as highlight key dates for the Spring Term.

Year 11 and 13 Mocks

The Year 11 and 13 students have just completed their Mock examinations and now begin their run into the final Summer series. Their conduct during the Mock period has been exceptional. The Mocks culminate in a results day (10 January) where students will receive their outcomes in an envelope (much as they will in August). We can already see that those students who diligently prepared for their exams have reaped the benefit and those who have not engaged in a productive revision programme will likely be disappointed. As such, we focus heavily on revision techniques with students on return and also host parental events to raise awareness of effective revision so families can support their children.

Year 7 Careers Event

Our Year 7's enjoyed a "day with a difference", coming away from a normal timetable to get an insight into different careers.

We were fortunate to host visitors from a range of different vocations who talked to children about their career path and answered questions. The purpose was to demystify certain jobs, remove stereotypes and misconceptions around particular career paths and convey key messages about employment and life beyond education. The children were brilliant and engaged really well with our visiting engineer, surgical nurse, solicitor, barrister, butcher, pharmacist etc

Sixth Form Interviews

Year 11 students have been busy making applications for Sixth Form, and it has been a pleasure to be involved in the interview panel for a large number of these. It has been encouraging to see their focus and maturity in making important decisions about next steps.

Perseverance

Our half-term character value that we have been rewarding in classes has been perseverance. This has been promoted through assemblies but also encouraged in classes and rewarded through our token system. It was flagged in our November Teaching and Learning Review that students can be quick to lose motivation when presented with challenge in classrooms. We have emphasised to students that without persistently working towards tasks that are difficult, without necessarily seeing immediate success, personal growth is very difficult.

Celebration Assemblies

It has been an absolute pleasure to attend the end of term celebration assemblies. Alongside a performance from our school production '*Little Shop of Horrors*'; students have received recognition through Subject Stars, House Point Awards, Homework recognition as well as 100% attendance achievement. A huge well done to all those recognised through these assemblies – keep it up!

Sports Fixtures

It has been an incredibly busy period for the PE Department, entering students into a number of local, regional and national sporting events. This has included Cross Country, Rugby, Basketball and Football. All year groups, including Sixth Form have represented the school in competitive events. There have been some

incredible results, but I am heartened by the number of students that have been involved and represented our school so admirably. Well done to all those involved.

Key Dates for the Spring Term:

Year 12 Parents' Evening	9 January (Remote)
Year 11 Mock Results Assembly	10 January (To be confirmed)
Year 9 University Visit	14 January (to be confirmed)
Year 10 D&T Trip	16 January
Year 11 Interview Week	w/b 20 January
'An Inspector Calls' Trip	22 January
Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge	24 January
Careers in the Curriculum Week	w/b 27 January
Year 10 Enterprise Events	28 January
Year 10 CV & Letter writing mornings	30 and 31 January
Year 8 Face to Face with Careers event	30 January
GCSE Science Live Trip	3 February
Year 8 Face to Face with Careers event	5 February
Year 11 Targeted Parents' Evening	6 February
Year 11 Poetry Live Trip	6 February
Year 10 Apprenticeship Fair	7 February (to be confirmed)
<i>Half-Term</i>	<i>17-21 February</i>
Year 9 Guided Choice commences	24 February
Year 11/13 group photos	27 February
Year 9 Options Evening	27 February
Year 13 Targeted Parents' Evening	6 March
Year 10 World of Work-Day	6 March
Year 12 Mid-Year Exams	10-12 March
Year 10 Interviews	13 March
Key Stage 3 Science Live	14 March
School Musical Production	17, 18 and 19 March
Year 9 Parents' Evening	20 March
Year 7 Parents' Evening	3 April (to be confirmed)
<i>Easter Holidays</i>	<i>7-21 April</i>
Students return for the Summer Term	22 April

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the Christmas break, please contact:

Essex Children's Safeguarding Board on 0345 603 7627 (this service can signpost you to appropriate local support). The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) can be contacted on 0800 953 0222.

Furthermore, Family Solutions can be contacted on 0345 603 7627 or Community 360 on 01376 550507. These services can assist with supporting families through difficult and challenging times.

Finally, I wish you all an enjoyable and restful Christmas and hope you all manage to spend some quality time with family and friends over the Christmas break.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Finch
Headteacher

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