

7th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

This is a busy time of year as students balance their studies with so many activities taking place in the run up to Christmas. Keeping organised is very important and so I hope this communication keeps you informed of key dates.

Congratulations

Mathematical success

Students from Ounsdale have taken part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. Individual success on the written paper part of the competition go to Hal Simpson in Year 11 who received a Gold award, Luke Baynham (Year 13) a Silver award and Lily Fisher (Year 13) a Bronze award.

A team of students then took part in the Wolverhampton University Senior Maths Challenge competing against a wide range of organisations. The team consisted of Hal Simpson (Year 11), Luke Baynham and Lily Fisher (Year 13) and Caleb Smith (Year 12). They did incredibly well coming 6th and were only a few points off the top!

In addition to the Maths challenge work, Miss Nicklin accompanied a group of Y10 girls to an AMSP event Celebrating Women in Maths in November. The girls listened to some inspirational speakers, completed activities, such as estimating the volume of the chancellor's hall (without any measuring equipment) and learnt of the variety of careers accessible to Maths graduates.

Oxford interview

We are delighted that one of our Year 13 students has been invited to an interview at Oxford University to read Maths, this follows a successful application paper and written exam. We wish this young man all the best on the 3 day interview process and know that he would be a true asset to Oxford should he be offered a place.

Charitable donations

The chaplaincy team visited assemblies in October and described the value in sending shoeboxes to children in parts of the world where underprivileged children do not receive Christmas presents. Ounsdale students and their families sent 50 shoeboxes, this is a fantastic act of charity and kindness, well done to all those involved.

Year 11 mocks

Well done to students in Year 11 that have been working hard with revision for mock exams. Students have approached exams with maturity and in general conduct has been excellent. For those students that have found the mocks a difficult process, support will be put in place to ensure students revise effectively and/or to ensure students have the resilience to cope with the final summer exams. If you feel your child requires additional support please contact the school.

Upcoming events

History film

The postponed showing of Peter Jackson's film 'They Shall Not Grow Old' will take place on **Tuesday 11th December** from 3:10pm in the school hall. Students that have already submitted reply slips can attend, any other interested students need to contact Mrs Dean. This film has a certificate of 15 due to the graphic images of war.

Christmas concert

This will take place on **Wednesday 12th December**, doors open at 6.30pm, the concert will run from 7pm to 9pm. Tickets can be purchased on line from the box office linked to the school web-site; Adults £5.00, Children £3.00. Over 100 students are involved in this event and we look forward to watching a wide range of performances.

Reward trip

Students that have high levels of attendance and have met our high expectations this term have been invited to attend a reward trip on **Friday 14th December**. Students are looking forward to an afternoon ice-skating. Well done to all those invited to attend.

Christmas church services

We are grateful to St Benedict Biscop C of E Church for allowing us to take part in Christmas services prior to the holidays. Drake and Fiennes will be attending the church service on the afternoon of **Wednesday 19th December**. Raleigh and Scott, along with Y11 and 6th form students, will be attending the church service on the morning of **Friday 21st December**. Students will need to represent the school well in the community as we celebrate Christmas together.

Christmas extravaganza

On **Thursday 20th December** we will hold an annual Christmas Extravaganza, raising money for a local charity 'The Haven Refuge' in Wolverhampton, who seek to provide refuge and shelter for women and children in need. Last year £1600 was raised. This year there will be a Christmas Catwalk event, where students and staff are encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper for £1, and a Christmas fayre with a variety of stalls around the school.

GCSE and A-level presentation evening

A celebration of summer exam results for last year's Year 11 and Year 13 students will take place on **Monday 17th December at 7pm**. To all those families that have received an invite please reply by **Monday 10th December**.

Grease

The school production of 'Grease' will take place on **Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th February**. Students are busy rehearsing. Please save the date and purchase tickets in the New Year – details to follow.

Extracurricular activities for Term 2 (January to April 2019)

LUNCH CLUBS

	Monday Lunch	Tuesday Lunch	Wednesday Lunch	Thursday Lunch	Friday Lunch
Year 7-9	D/T Craft Club – Room 27 School Orchestra – Room 34 Male Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE) Art Club – Room 37	Flute Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 Table Tennis – PE Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)	Chess Club – Room 52 Pop and Rock Club – Room 34 Advanced Vocals – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 Badminton – PE Language Leaders HWK – Room 20 Social Skills – Inclusion 1 (See RHA or JWE)	School Choir - Room 34 STEM Club – Room 40 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)	Music Free Time – Room 34 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)
Year 10-11	Badminton – PE Male Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE) Art Club – Room 37	Flute Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 French Films – Room 21 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE) Mindfulness – Room 13 (Year 11s only)	Chess Club – Room 52 Pop and Rock Club – Room 34 Advanced Vocals – <u>Prac</u> Room 1 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)	School Choir - Room 34 Table Tennis – PE Spanish Films – Room 19 Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)	Music Free Time – Room 34 Badminton (BTEC ONLY)- PE Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	Monday 3PM	Tuesday 3PM	Wednesday 3PM	Thursday 3PM	Friday 3PM
Year 7-9	Grease Rehearsals – Hall Netball (y8-10) – PE Football (y7) – PE Football (y8) – PE (WEEK 2 ONLY) HWK Club - Library	Germany Vocal Group – Room 34 HWK Club – Library Y7-8 Girls Football – Sports Hall	HWK Club - Library	Grease Rehearsals – Hall Football (y9) – PE Football (y8) – PE (WEEK 1 ONLY) HWK Club – Library Debate club – Room 7 <u>Hegarty</u> Catch up – Room 59 Art Club – Room 37	Music Tech Club – Room 34
Year 10-11	GCSE music support – Room 34 Grease Rehearsals – Hall Netball (y8-10) – PE Football (10) – PE HWK Club – Library D/T Club (Invite only)	Germany Vocal Group – Room 34 GCSE History – Room 18 GCSE Geography – Room 5 HWK Club – Library Further Maths – (Y11 Invite Only) Yoga – Gym (year 11 only) Art Club – Room 37	HWK Club - Library	Grease Rehearsals – Hall HWK Club – Library Debate club – Room 7 <u>Hegarty</u> Catch up – Room 59	Art Club – Room 37 Music Tech Club – Room 34 Art Club – Room 37

Christmas holidays

Students will break up from school at **12:20 on Friday 21st December** for the Christmas holidays. It has been a busy term with lots of hard work, and so staff and students deserve a fabulous break. I do wish students, staff, and Ounsdale families a peace and fun filled Christmas, and every blessing for 2019.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dr G Smith

Headteacher