

11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I wish you a Happy New Year. We have welcomed the students back to school this week and I am writing to keep you informed of important information.

## **Congratulations**

### **£1664.57 raised for The Haven**

The Christmas Extravaganza on the last Thursday before Christmas raised £1664.57 for The Haven. This charity supports vulnerable women and children at risk of homelessness through difficult home circumstances. Ounsdale has raised money for this charity over the last few years, however, this is the highest amount raised for this charity in a single event and we are very impressed by our student's charity work and kindness.

### **Maths offer from Oxford**

We are delighted that one of our talented Year 13 students has been offered a place to read Maths at Oxford University. This is a fantastic achievement. Places on this course are highly competitive and this achievement demonstrates the mathematical ability of this young man is second to none. A massive well done to this individual.

## **Upcoming events**

### **Grease**

The school production of grease will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Students are busy rehearsing. Tickets can be purchased from Monday evening (14<sup>th</sup> January) on the school box office, accessible via the web-site. Tickets are £7, concessions £5.

The annual school production is a highly anticipated event that students put a huge amount of effort into. Please encourage wider members of your family to support our students by attending this event. Let's aim for a sell out on every night of the show.

### **Rome trip**

The Ancient History visit to Rome takes place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February. Students will be flying to the 'eternal city' to enhance their understanding of the rise and fall of the Roman Empire, visiting the Colosseum, Pantheon, Forum, Palatine & Capitoline Hills as well as visiting the ancient port of Ostia Antica. Students will also visit The Vatican and St Peter's Basilica. This will be a fantastic opportunity for all involved.

## **The Key Stage 4 Option process (Year 8 and Year 9)**

### **Year 9**

Students in Year 9 have already chosen their Humanities and Language option and began studying these GCSEs at the beginning of Year 9. Students will select another 2 Key Stage 4 courses from a range of options including Art, DT, Business, Health and Social Care, Sport, Performing Arts and a range of other subjects. Information about the options process will be presented on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** at 7pm, this is an important evening for Year 9 students and their families to attend.

## **Year 8**

Students in Year 8 will select a Humanities subject (History or Geography) and a language option, to enable them to specialize during Year 9. Information about the Year 8 options process will be presented following the Easter holiday, a date will be provided shortly.

## **Mock GCSE feedback (Year 11)**

Students are currently being given feedback on their mock examinations by subject teachers. This information will be critical to the students in allowing them to make further progress before the real examinations. The Year 11 parents evening on Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup> will allow discussion on mock results with subject teachers.

We have been very impressed by the maturity that Year 11 students are displaying in preparation for their important exams, and we would like to thank-you for your help in supporting the students at this time.

## **Lunch procedure**

Changes have been made to the lunch procedure this term to ease congestion in the canteen and to ensure the school building is looked after well by students.

There are now two sittings to buy food within the canteen, this term Year 7, 9 and 11 can buy food from 12.20, Year 8 and 10 can buy food from 12.35. The sittings will rotate at points throughout the year.

Students will no longer access the main teaching areas at lunch time, unless they are with a teacher, but they can socialise within the theatre or drama studio in addition to the canteen. Students who want to complete work during lunch can use the library, attend a lunch time activity, or apply to have access to a silent working venue.

## **Reward Trips**

Over 450 students were invited on the ice skating reward trip in December, eligible students had above 95% attendance and less than 3 yellow cards, this illustrates the fantastic work ethic of the majority of our students.

A new term marks a fresh start, students will be invited on this terms reward trip if their attendance is above 95% and if they have fewer than 3 yellow cards.

Please be aware that exceptions are made to the attendance criteria for students with long term medical conditions where students regularly attend hospital consultations. Unfortunately, sporadic illnesses even with doctor's notes, albeit genuine, will disqualify students from eligibility in a given term, however each term is looked at in isolation and therefore each term is an opportunity to qualify.

**Extracurricular activities**

A new year is a great time to try a new activity. The timetable for lunch and after school clubs is attached. Please do encourage students to attend.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dr G Smith

Headteacher

## 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<br>School Orchestra – Room 34<br>Male Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)<br>Art Club – Room 37 | Flute Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>Table Tennis – PE<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)                                               | Chess Club – Room 52<br>Pop and Rock Club – Room 34<br>Advanced Vocals – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>Badminton – PE<br>Language Leaders HWK – Room 20<br>Social Skills – Inclusion 1 (See RHA or JWE) | School Choir - Room 34<br>STEM Club – Room 40<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)                          | Music Free Time – Room 34<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)                              |
| Year 10-11 | Badminton – PE<br>Male Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)<br>Art Club – Room 37                                         | Flute Choir – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>French Films – Room 21<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)<br>Mindfulness – Room 13 (Year 11s only) | Chess Club – Room 52<br>Pop and Rock Club – Room 34<br>Advanced Vocals – <u>Prac</u> Room 1<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE)                                                         | School Choir - Room 34<br>Table Tennis – PE<br>Spanish Films – Room 19<br>Social Skills – Room 45 (See RHA or JWE) | Music Free Time – Room 34<br>Badminton (BTEC ONLY)- PE<br>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<br>Netball (y8-10) – PE<br>Football (y7) – PE<br>Football (y8) – PE (WEEK 2 ONLY)<br>HWK Club - Library                       | Germany Vocal Group – Room 34<br>HWK Club – Library<br>Y7-8 Girls Football – Sports Hall                                                                                                         | HWK Club - Library | Grease Rehearsals – Hall<br>Football (y9) – PE<br>Football (y8) – PE (WEEK 1 ONLY)<br>HWK Club – Library<br>Debate club – Room 7<br><u>Hegarty</u> Catch up – Room 59<br>Art Club – Room 37 | Music Tech Club – Room 34                                             |
| Year 10-11 | GCSE music support – Room 34<br>Grease Rehearsals – Hall<br>Netball (y8-10) – PE<br>Football (10) – PE<br>HWK Club – Library<br>D/T Club (Invite only) | Germany Vocal Group – Room 34<br>GCSE History – Room 18<br>GCSE Geography – Room 5<br>HWK Club – Library<br>Further Maths – (Y11 Invite Only)<br>Yoga – Gym (year 11 only)<br>Art Club – Room 37 | HWK Club - Library | Grease Rehearsals – Hall<br>HWK Club – Library<br>Debate club – Room 7<br><u>Hegarty</u> Catch up – Room 59                                                                                 | Art Club – Room 37<br>Music Tech Club – Room 34<br>Art Club – Room 37 |