



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy half-term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. All the signs are that we continue to move in the right direction and we anticipate that the progress and attainment of the boys will continue on an upward trajectory.

I have a number of important messages to relay, so please take the time to digest the content of this letter. Firstly, important dates:

All Saints Day - Wednesday 1st November

The boys will attend Mass for this Holy Day of Obligation.

Staff training - Friday 3rd November

Pupils should start at **10.30am** and not be on site before 10.10am.

Year 10 (Maths and English) and 11 Mock Examinations – Two weeks beginning 13th November

Target Setting Day - Tuesday 14th November

Years 7 – 10 will be on the Priestmead Site and Year 11s on the Salvatorian Site. Appointment times will follow for all parents/carers.

Year 10 Parents Evening - Thursday 23rd November

Appointment times will follow

Full INSET Day - Tuesday 28th November

School will be closed for pupils to allow Teaching and Learning INSET for staff.

GCSE Awards Evening - Thursday 30th November, 5.30pm start

For current Year 12 (last years' Year 11).

By now, all boys should all be aware of their target minimum grades (TMG). They should be in their journals and written on the front of their books. It is very important that they consider what is needed to achieve them. Please have a look at your son's books and journal and sign the latter weekly to say that you have overseen homework. I also ask that you check your logins for 'Show my Homework' and Parent Pay in order to make full use of these systems.

Year 11 boys have been given a timetable of extra sessions over the half-term break and it is essential that your sons attend. In such a crucial academic year, please check these timetables carefully to ensure punctual attendance.

I encourage all parents to complete the online eligibility checker for free school meals:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. If your son is eligible, in addition to qualifying for free meals, the school will receive extra funding for the curriculum. Please then apply online.

As the winter months approach, inclement weather is likely. We permit appropriate winter clothing. Uniform expectations are outlined in the journal, but hats, gloves and scarves should be plain black and woolly. No other hats should be worn. Outdoor coats/parkas should be plain navy or black with minimal logos.



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Over half-term, boys may be tempted to get a new hairstyle. I remind you that these should not be exaggerated, coloured or lined nor should they be unbalanced eg excessively short or long sections. Lines in eyebrows are not permitted.

We take safety of our boys seriously and advise that they should not ride a bicycle to school without the correct equipment (lights, reflective gear and a helmet as a minimum). Any boy seen to be riding unsafely, incorrectly or dangerously may be subject to sanctions.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy, restful and peaceful break.

Kind regards

Alan Bryant
Head of School