

23 March 2016

Headteacher: Christopher Anders BA (Hons) MA

Dear Parent/Carer

We have reached the end of another busy term. The highlights of this term have been:

- Third place at Rock Challenge
- Whole school 'workout' on the STP in aid of Sport Relief
- Overall winners of the choral section at the Portsmouth Music Festival
- Year 8 and Year 10 boys' teams - winners of the South East Hants Football B League
- The annual Race at our Place raising funds for charity

When we return after Easter the focus will be on Year 10 and 11, who will sit their exams before the end of term. If you are a parent of a Year 10 or 11 student there is a separate letter enclosed, which I ask you to read.

I am sure you will join me in hoping that we have wonderful weather during the coming months.

Uniform

Summer uniform can be worn from Tuesday, 3 May. A reminder that this is a white polo shirt with the school logo in the colour of your son/daughter's Family.

Thank you to all parents who ensured their son/daughter returned to school after February half-term in the correct uniform.

Holidays in Term Time

You are, by now, aware that we will not authorise holidays in line with government advice, but we are happy to discuss leave of absence requests with parents where there are special circumstances. Since 22 February we have not been authorising any leave of absence requests for students in Years 10 and 11. This is to ensure students are well-prepared for their exams.

Homework

Your child receives homework weekly for most subjects and we value your support in encouraging your child to complete this and take pride in their work. We remind that you can log onto MILK if you wish to check your child's homework setting as well as attendance.

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Self-Defence Classes

We are pleased to announce that starting on Wednesday, 13 April we will be holding self-defence classes from 4.00 – 5.00 pm. These classes are open to all students at a cost of £2.00 per session or £10 for all six sessions. If a student wishes to participate they can go to the Activity Studio for 4.00 pm each Wednesday.

Year 7 books

On return after Easter, Year 7 students will be expected to bring books back and forth from home to school and will need bags that allow them to do this. The purpose in doing this is to ensure students are:

- developing skills of independent learning and organisation.
- taking responsibility for learning
- sharing learning with parents/carers and other family members
- using in class learning to revise and support with homework.

Finally, key dates for the remainder of this academic year are:

- **Monday, 11 April** – Students return to school as normal
- **Thursday, 21 April** - Year 9 and 10 Parents' evening
- **Monday, 2 May** – school closed for bank holiday
- **Tuesday, 3 May** – first scheduled exam of the summer exam season
- **Monday, 30 May to Friday, 3 June** – half-term. Students return to school as normal on **Monday, 6 June**
- **Wednesday, 22 June** - final scheduled exam of the summer season
- **Thursday, 23 June** – Year 11 leavers' assembly and prom
- **Monday, 27 June to Friday, 8 July** – Year 10 Work Experience fortnight
- **Monday, 11 July** – Years 7 & 8 Awards evening
- **Tuesday, 12 July** – Year 9 & 10 Awards evening (Year 11 awards are made in the Autumn term at a certificate evening)
- **Wednesday, 20 July** – final day of academic year

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Walker'.

Sue Walker
Deputy Headteacher