

# Year 10 Newsletter



## December 2017

### Dear Parents

As we reach the end of another busy term I wanted to bring you up to date with some of the goings on of this term and give you some dates for next term to be aware of.

### Prison Me No Way Day

The year group had a very successful and thought provoking day on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, working with the Prison Me No Way organisation considering causes and consequences of crime and learning practical skills such as first aid. Students made comments such as “it made me realise that my future depends on how I choose to live, rather than what people around me do” and “[visiting the mock-up cell] was scary but I enjoyed it and it made me think”.

### Rewards

It was a pleasure to hand out almost sixty commendation postcards in assembly this week to students who have been recognised by their teachers as having done something worthy of praise in the lesson. It was great to see evidence of outstanding homework projects, positive attitude challenging work and successful Maths challenge entrants.

### House System

We have launched a house system across the whole school and students have been placed in houses depending on what tutor groups they are in. The houses are Terra, Ventis, Ignis and Aqua, named after the elements that make us the world. Year 10 have been chosen to take a leadership role in the houses, and I was very pleased to see a large number of applications for the role of house captain from our students. Interest in roles such as this will definitely be looked upon favourably when we consider applications for Head Boy and Head Girl towards the end of the year. Well done to Aqua who won 100 points in the end of term Spelling Bee – the first inter house competition under the new system.

### Year 10 Work Experience

Thank you for your support in securing work experience placements for your son or daughter for the fortnight beginning 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The vast majority of the year group have now got placements sorted, and it is great to see that by getting going early many students have been able to secure some very unusual and interesting placements.

## **Year 10 “mock” exams**

All Year 10 students will be taking practice exam paper in all their subjects over the period of 15<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> January. It is important that they take the opportunity to prepare themselves fully for these examinations by revising carefully. Subject teachers will have spent some time explaining to the students what they need to do to prepare for the exams. In many ways revision at this stage is much more valuable than revision just before the final exams as students will be able to consign of the material that they have learnt to their long term memory through revising now, so that there is less to do next year. For revision to be effective it is important that students find ways of testing themselves on what they have learnt – for example through doing, or redoing practice examination questions or setting themselves questions and then testing themselves to see whether they remember the answers to their own questions.

You will receive the results of your son or daughters’ mock exams in due course and there will be a parents evening on 28<sup>th</sup> February where you will have the opportunity to meet with their subject teachers to discuss their progress. As ever, please do get in touch with your child’s tutor, the year group mentor Miss Tierney or myself if you have any questions or concerns about their education.

Wishing you an enjoyable and restful Christmas break.

Kind Regards

*Mr Wilkinson*

*Head of Year 10*

