



SBy/esk  
26<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Magill Building and Student Leadership**

Progress on the Magill Building is now swift and it is really possible to see what a wonderful space we will gain in September. Groups of staff have now visited the building, including those who will gain a brand new classroom for the new academic year.

The first two students to visit the building were our two new student leaders, appointed just a couple of weeks ago. **Oni Taiwo is our new Head Girl and Lauren Jackson is her Deputy.** Here they are, hard hatted and ready to take a tour around the Magill Building. The appointment of House Leaders, Prefects and Sports Leaders is now well under way and we look forward to working with our new student leaders over the coming year.



Over the past year, our senior student leadership team has been truly exceptional. Warm and grateful thanks are due to Yasmin Williams, Head Girl, and Olivia Pike and Sophie Andrews, the Deputy Head Girls. They have been utterly reliable and conscientious, innovative and enthusiastic and have provided wonderful role models for the rest of the school.

## **Examinations**

Like Yasmin, Olivia and Sophie, the rest of Year 11 are fully plunged into exam season now. We have had a busy couple of weeks which have included English Literature GCSE papers, the first of three Maths exams and the first three Science papers. Most students are around half way through, but it's another hectic couple of weeks after half term and we wish all Year 11s well with their revision and their ability to simply keep up the momentum of preparing for these difficult GCSEs.

Well done to Year 10, who have completed their RS GCSE and are now preparing for English Language, being the first whole cohort of students to sit the new GCSE which is graded 9 to 1.

We wish all our students the very best of luck - and a reminder that you make your own luck by revising well!

## **New Pastoral Structure for September 2017**

We have decided, after much consideration, to move to a year group based pastoral system from September, since this has the benefits of enhanced support for students, with one member of staff (Head of Year) able to focus on the academic and pastoral needs of a specific year group. The Year 7 Head of Year, for example, will be able to focus on settling in our new students, the Year 9 Head of Year will be able to provide support for girls who are planning their GCSE choices, and of course the Year 11 Head of Year will have a key role in preparing the girls for their examinations and beyond.

The Heads of Year from September 2017 will be:

Year 7	Mrs K Kantolinna
Year 8	Mrs C Webb
Year 9	Mrs S Hayakawa
Year 10	Mrs C Chapple
Year 11	Mr N Martin

There will be no changes to our much-loved houses (Helen Keller, Anne Frank, Marie Curie, Elizabeth Garrett, Florence Nightingale and Rosa Parks), which will continue to thrive in the school under supported student leadership.

## **Uniform**

I would like to bring to your attention the school rules regarding uniform and appearance, which can be found on the school website: <http://st-edmunds.eu/school-life/uniform/> as we rely on your support to ensure that your daughter arrives at school in correct uniform, with suitable equipment for the school day.



In the last newsletter we mentioned the new school skirt which will be introduced in September. It will be compulsory for all students then in Years 7, 8 and 9 and also for Year 11 Prefects. We also would prefer that all Year 10s wear the new skirt, given that this new one should last the final two years of school. It is a much better quality skirt than our current one and the girls who have tried it tell us that it is much more comfortable to wear.

The skirt is easy to wash (no fabric conditioner please) and if hung up to dry will not need ironing. The price for smaller sizes will be £26.50, and for waist sizes 30" upwards the price will be £29.00.

To make it reasonably simple to buy, our new skirt stockist Scholars will be confirming dates shortly for "pop-up shops" in school. These dates will be sent home via HomeContact, advertised on the school website and at the school reception as soon as we receive them. This is expected to be before the end of June.

## Safe behaviour around Salisbury in the holidays

You will no doubt have read about the issues to do with the use of the drug Xanax by young people in and around Salisbury recently. One or more students in almost every secondary school in the city have been affected by the cynical promotion of this prescription-only drug for recreational use. Motiv8 spoke to students in Year 10 about the dangers of Xanax last week and again, this was part of a programme of drugs education in schools across the city. We all want to do our very best to keep our young people safe, particularly over holiday periods when, typically, they have more freedom. Please do talk to your daughters about safe behaviours and appropriate choices of friends and associates.

We hope everyone has an enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely



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