



Our ref: WMS/GG

12 September 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support in guiding your son / daughter through Year 12. We are very proud of their successes during Year 12 however, students must be prepared for the busy academic year ahead. To enable you to continue supporting your son/daughter during their final year at Plymstock School please see the key dates below.

The first parents' evening is on Wednesday 28 November between 15.45-18.15. Further information will follow regarding this evening. However, please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form team or your son/daughter's subject teachers prior to this date if you have any questions or concerns.

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| <b>September</b>                            |   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> September                  | Early Closure   |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept-5 <sup>th</sup> Oct   | Year 13 Assessment Period   |
| <b>October</b>                              |   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> October                     | Collapsed sessions lessons 1 & 2                                    |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> October   | Charity Week  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October                    | Year 13 (select students) Apprenticeship Fair (Bristol)             |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> October                    | Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry UCAS deadline |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> October  | Half Term   |
| <b>November</b>                             |   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> November                    | Progress Checks home  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                    | Year 13 Business Trip (Wembley Stadium)                             |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> November                    | Year 12 & 13 Senior Maths Challenge                                 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November                   | Mock Law Trial Heat (Plymouth County Court)                         |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> November                   | Early Closure- GCSE Presentation Evening                            |
| 16-18 <sup>th</sup> November                | Year 12 & 13 Art Trip   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> November                   | Collapsed Day   |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> November                   | Parents' Evening 3.45pm-6.15pm                                      |
| <b>December</b>                             |   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December                   | Last day of term- Early Closure                                     |
| <b>January</b>                              |   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> January                     | First Day of term   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> January                    | Year 13 UCAS deadline   |
| <b>February</b>                             |   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> February | Half Term   |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb-4 <sup>th</sup> March  | Year 13 Mock Exam week  |

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| <b>March</b>                              |                                  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> March                     | World Book Day                   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> March                    | Collapsed session lessons 3,4,&5 |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> March                    | Progress checks home             |
| <b>April</b>                              |                                  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> April                     | Parents' Evening 3.45-6.15pm     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> April                     | Last day of term                 |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> April                    | First day of term                |
| <b>May</b>                                |                                  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> May                       | May Day Bank Holiday             |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> May-26 <sup>th</sup> June | Year 13 A Level exams            |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> May-2 <sup>nd</sup> June | Half Term                        |
| <b>June</b>                               |                                  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> June                     | End of A Level exams             |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> June                     | Year 13 Summer ball              |
| <b>August</b>                             |                                  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> August                   | A Level Results Day              |

### **Attendance**

We believe that attendance is crucial in order for students to reach their potential. Students are expected to attend school every day; this includes registration at 8.45am. Registration is an opportunity for students to receive advice, guidance and support from their tutors. Holidays are only authorised in exceptional circumstances. The school attendance policy can be found on the school website or in the Sixth Form Information Booklet given to your son/daughter on the first day of term. Where absence is due to: a medical reason, attendance at university open days or other exceptional circumstances, students are expected to provide evidence and where possible get work from their subject teachers prior to the event. Please phone the Sixth form direct line on 01752 495041 or send a message via PS Engage to report any absence.

Student's attendance figures are used in any reference that the school provides. Students will receive the following statement in their reference:

- 95% Outstanding attendance
- 90-95% Excellent attendance
- 85-90% Good attendance
- 80-85% Satisfactory attendance
- Below 80% Poor attendance

Poor attendance may result in a student's place being withdrawn.

## **Exams**

This year the JCQ have asked that **ALL** students ensure they are available until **27<sup>th</sup> June 2019**. This is in case any examinations have to be postponed due to any national or local disruption during the June 2019 examination series. This is the first time they have given themselves the option of moving an examination at a very late stage should they wish and **it is vital that candidates remain available up to and including this date.**

Even when students received their examination timetables and they finish before this date, they must remain available. Please do not book any holidays until after 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

## **Academic Study**

Research has shown that students who complete extra reading and read prior to lessons achieve the best results.

Students are expected to complete five hours of extra study per subject on top of the time they spend in lessons. The building has Wi-Fi throughout and there is a timetable of quiet study rooms so that students can work at school during their study periods. We constantly strive to encourage a positive work ethic amongst the students and the Sixth Form area on the school website has helpful hints and tips on how students can be effective learners.

Thank you in anticipation for your support in working in partnership so that your son/daughter has every opportunity to reach their potential. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any concerns that you may have.

Yours sincerely



Mr Wil Sprenkel  
Senior Assistant Head Teacher



Mrs R Littler  
Assistant Head of Sixth Form