

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

My first mention this week must go to Year 13 who are nearly done with the UCAS application process. The interviews and offers have been coming in thick and fast and have created quite a buzz around school. As apprenticeships start to open, we have a plan for supporting those applications in the new year as well as supporting those who need mock interviews.

The last few weeks has seen Year 12 forum focusing on the benefits of higher education, online financial safety and the opportunities afforded by apprenticeships. Students have been encouraged to talk this information through with you so do ask them! Year 13 have also had a session with Mrs Brown, Associate Assistant Headteacher, on the implications of the recent announcement on exams 2021.

Our Senior Sixth Form team have also been involved in supporting the continuance of the School Council and the charitable efforts of the school in the last month.

In addition to the tutorial programme, last week I delivered a session on "Finding a balance", to both year groups. With the imminent end of term and publication of January's exam timetable I felt it was important to address the issue of revision over the Christmas break. The clear message was the best way to avoid stress in January to PLAN for a careful balance between rest/play and preparation. I talked to students about ensuring that they take blocks of a few days to really recover from this term and come back refreshed. Realistically some time will need to be spent on revision but that should be used effectively – reducing procrastination and applying what they have been learning about A level mindset and effective revision. I am attaching some of the slides and again I have suggested that they communicate their plans to you so that you can support them in the best way possible.

Its looking festive in the Sixth Form and whilst it may be a very different season this year, I wish you and your families all the very best.

*Mrs Haycock
Head of Sixth Form*

Young Professionals Conference

On the 12th November, Year 12 students were invited to participate in the Young Professionals Conference run by Dan Miller (CEO of Young Professionals). We discussed employability and the skills needed for the workplace and were introduced to a wide variety of large companies that offer graduate and post-sixth form apprenticeships and internship schemes. It was a fantastic insight into the way employers view candidates and gave us an awareness of the types of skills and experiences we need to gain to be competitive candidates in today's job market. The main key skills that came up were complex problem solving, adaptability, teamwork and negotiation. Through gaining this knowledge, we were able to determine our personal areas for development to meet the expectations and demands of future employers. Some of the featured companies were Vodafone, PWC, Ernst and Young, the RAF and HSBC. These major corporations gave us useful knowledge and information on the types of opportunities and pathways available into the world of work. This experience also taught us how your career path can develop and change as you grow within your role and global circumstances change. Please see below useful recruitment links.

Written by Lucy Craig, Holly Gilbert and Betsy Holmes

Mental Health Focus

More than ever this year there has been a focus on mental health. I will be offering a mental health first aid course to both Year 12 and 13 students in the New Year. Numbers will be limited initially as it is a certificated course, however, if there is demand I hope to repeat the offer.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about support for mental health I recommend starting with the following sites.

Mind.org.uk Youngminds.org.uk Samaritans.org Phone 116 123 - free anytime.



REMINDERS & NOTICES

CAREERS

Mrs Murphy, Careers and Inspirational Officer attends SJT weekly for career or work experience related questions or concerns. Mrs Murphy will be sending out useful articles and will be in touch with students. Mrs Murphy can be contacted by email at: murphy.m@mmat.co.uk



EXTERNAL LINKS

Some useful recruitment links:

www.pwc.co.uk/schools

Email for school recruitment:
uk_schools_recruitment@pwc.com

www.gsk.com/careers

www.ey.com/uk/apprenticeships



WEBSITE QUICK LINKS

Please click on the following useful links to find out more.

- [News.](#)
- [Home Learning](#)
- [Sixth Form.](#)
- [Term Dates.](#)



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