



Dear Parent/Carer

I write with news of your school. Despite this being a relatively short term – only five weeks – we seem to squeeze a great deal into a short period of time. Much of the pressure, of course, for both pupils and the teaching staff has been taken up with the hard work and determination in preparing for the public exam season. As I write, the GCSE exams are well underway and with many more to come after the half term holidays. As there has been throughout the year, there will be a full programme of revision activities over the half term break and Year 11 pupils and parents are strongly encouraged to ensure that attendance at these sessions is excellent. This strong and accomplished year group have certainly risen to the challenge and I trust that their efforts are well rewarded. I would also like to thank parents for your support, guidance and patience over this taxing and stressful period. I am sure it will be well worth the effort! As a reminder to Year 11 parents and to Year 10s who are studying for English Literature and Statistics, the results will be published on the morning of Thursday 24th August 2017. Further details and instructions will follow and of course, be published online.

For the many parents who take a keen interest in the key priorities and strategic direction of the school, I would like to draw your attention to the new College Improvement Plan for 2017/18, which is now approved by our Governing Body and is posted on the school website. As you will know, although we are an Academy within the Magna Learning Partnership, we are very much drivers of our own destiny and therefore the plan matters a great deal to our school and improving the life chances of our pupils. The document has been devised very carefully, following a wide range of self-evaluation and survey activities undertaken at intervals throughout the year. I hope that you will agree that it covers the main points of development for our school. If you would like to raise any comments or suggestions, do please get in touch. The document can be accessed electronically via <http://wyverncollege.wilts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/CIP-Final-2017-18-002.pdf>

Alongside all of the efforts in the classroom, this productive term has been characterised by some great activities beyond lesson time. Year 10 have benefited from a number of careers activities, providing them with interview experience and more focused opportunities to prepare for the world of further education and work. This has been complemented throughout the school by our increasing and now embedded partnership with Bath Spa University who support us with outstanding opportunities for our youngsters to work alongside current students and gain an understanding and a familiarity with the reality of life in Higher Education. Showing these exciting possibilities ahead for all of our students is an important ambition and aspect of the school's work. We have also seen excellence at work in the form of some spirited and highly accomplished performances at the Area Sports on the 10th May and in a new venture for the school, we hosted an event for ten schools in the form of the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors on 25th April 2017. I was delighted by the positive impressions formed of the school and the eloquent and dignified manner in which our students conducted themselves around such a delicate but important piece of work. Embedding our already strong practice in this important work will require further leadership from these students in the near future.



A very pleasant duty at this time of year is to appoint the new Headboy. The process is very rigorous and gruelling, including a set of interviews and public hustings, following which the choice goes to public vote. Following a carefully planned, principled and highly effective campaign from all the contenders, the worthy winner becoming Headboy for 2017/18 was Sam Wheatley. I would also like to commend the runners up, Nadimur Rahman and Ben Saunders for a strong, positive and well planned campaign. I will look forward to working with Sam and the other senior pupils to help drive improvement in Wyvern College in the year ahead. This will include development of ever more effective student leadership and listening to the exceptionally thoughtful and helpful ideas from the boys in order to move our school forward and raise standards further. Each

Headboy team brings its own strengths and I am hugely optimistic for our work together in the year ahead.

It is important to point out that while we see some welcome warmer weather, the high standards of uniform requirement remain the same. The boys are expected to be properly equipped with full school uniform and stationery for lessons. This includes footwear, which should be recognisably a shoe, as opposed to a trainer, and capable of taking a polish. Furthermore, you will be aware that we are being stringent about ensuring that school rules over mobile phones are followed to the letter. Whilst we realise that boys may need to have phones on their person for emergency use, there are no occasions whatsoever when they should be visible in class, unless the teacher has specifically directed their use for a learning activity. It must be clear that any infringement of this rule will necessitate the phone being confiscated and it will not be returned until the end of the school day. There are no exceptions.

Many parents will have seen some mixed and not entirely helpful coverage in the press regarding term time holidays. There may be in truly exceptional cases the need for a short period of time away from school. Nevertheless, the research evidence is absolutely unequivocal – absence from school damages educational outcomes. While all the factors, including a child's previous attendance record are taken in to consideration, the expectation has to remain that term time absence will be refused. I am well aware of the financial pressure that this places a number of families under, but our first duty has to be to do everything in our power to safeguard the education of the boys.

Finally I wish you a happy and enjoyable half term holiday and remind you that we return to school on Monday 5th June which is a Blue week.

Yours sincerely

Mr P German
Headteacher

Road Safety – We have recently been made aware of issues with students crossing the London Road. If your son uses this route to and from school can you please reinforce road safety to him? Students should dismount from their bikes and use the pedestrian crossing waiting for the ‘green man’ before they cross the road.

Parking on site restrictions – Please do not enter or park on the school site whilst dropping your son off in the morning or picking him up in the afternoon. The number of vehicles trying to negotiate a small site is dangerous and it is much safer for you to drop off a short distance away and allow him to walk from there to school. Don’t forget the option of dropping your son at the London Road Park and Ride site, from where he can walk to school very easily, and you can avoid traffic congestion.

Parent Pay – the cashless catering system has the facility for your son to go overdrawn for one day only in the event of him forgetting his packed lunch or his account not being topped up. Can all parents check their parent pay account regularly to ensure funds are available for break and lunch times? You will receive a reminder should your son’s account be overdrawn.

Parent Pay for Year 11 students – all accounts for Year 11 students should be in credit until they leave school, if your son’s account is in credit when they leave, you will be refunded.

Mrs Paden – French teacher

On Sunday 23rd April, I took part in the London Marathon along with over 40,000 other runners. I was lucky enough to receive a charity place with “Unique”, who support children and families, affected by rare chromosome disorders. My daughter, Francesca, has a partial deletion of chromosome 13 and has significant learning difficulties.

I completed the event in 4 hours 31 minutes and enjoyed every minute of it! In total, I raised over £2000 in sponsorship, including a cake sale in school, so thank you to all those who supported me. My husband also ran and raised money for Elizabeth House Social Centre on Exeter Street.



Mr and Mrs Paden

Xanax Warning

Agencies have become informed of a number of young people in Salisbury area using Xanax (Alprazolam). Initial reports indicate that young people as young as 14 are using this drug.

The drug is not licensed in this country for use with young people, although some private hospitals may prescribe to adults. It is understood that the drug has been obtained through illicit sources.



Xanax (alprazolam) is a benzodiazepine. Alprazolam affects chemicals in the brain that may be unbalanced in people with anxiety. Xanax is used to treat anxiety disorders, panic disorders, and anxiety caused by depression

This medication can increase the effects of alcohol and Alprazolam may be habit-forming.

Xanax overdose may include one or more of the following symptoms:

Fatigue, mental confusion, hypotension, impaired motor function, impaired or absent reflexes, muscle weakness, impaired balance, dizziness, fainting, respiratory depression, coma and death.

If it is suspected anyone has taken Xanax then 999 should be called immediately.

Further substance misuse support for young people can be accessed through Motiv8, 0800 169 6136.

Employability and Mock Interview Day – Monday 15 May 2017

Year 10 students have recently undergone workshops preparing them for job interviews, learning how to write letters of application and CV's. All students were then asked to apply for a fictitious job where they had to prepare a letter of application and CV. Each student then attended a mock interview with a representative from the business sector giving them a realistic view of the interview process. Below are some of the feedback comments from the day.

"I need to be more prepared and do more research."

"I think the interview went well and I stayed calm throughout."

"I got feedback which was positive. I think I could improve the way I answer questions without hesitation."

"I was a bit nervous and shaky, but when I was in the interview it was ok."

"I got strategies on answering questions and ways to complete a CV professionally."

"In the future I will know how to handle myself in an interview."

"I felt the interview went well. I made a few mistakes but I think it was because I was nervous."

"It gave me a lot more confidence and understanding of how an interview works."

We would like to say an enormous thank you to the following people for giving up their time to support our students.



Roger Thomas and Kate Courtnell – Five Rivers Recruitment

Chloe Ainscough – Wiltshire College, Salisbury



Dawn Barry – Alert Training

Ayuran Selvathasan - QinetiQ



PCSO Aland Aldersley-Byrne – Wiltshire Police

Zoe Cupit – Wilton community Land Trust



Isobel Hughes – UCFB Wembley

Yetti Dutton MBE – Salisbury Army Careers Centre



Julia Wheatley – Governor at Wyvern College

Mr Montague – PE Teacher



Marathon De Sables

Over the Easter holidays I competed in the "Marathon of the Sands", which has been called one of the hardest footraces on the planet. A self-sufficient footrace across the sand dunes of the sub-Saharan desert in temperatures as high as 50 degrees where sandstorms, searing heat and energy sapping sand make the challenge of completing 260km over 6 days of between 22 miles and 53 miles of racing. The race is dominated by North African

athletes and although my preparation was hampered by my injury for 6 weeks before the race meaning only 5 weeks training prior to the race, I finished in 18th place and was part of the 2nd place team, "Team UK" beating off opposition from French, Belgian, American and more teams, only being toppled by the top team from Morocco. With the perfect build up, hope to go back and improve on the result in the next two years.

Anglo-Celtic Plate

On Sunday 21st May I competed for England as part of the National team in the Anglo-Celtic Plate 100km championships held just outside Hull in Yorkshire. Only 5 weeks after the Marathon De Sables I was concerned whether I had recovered from the previous race but representing your country at any sport brings on an extra incentive to push yourself to your limits. In windy but warm conditions I completed the 4 x 25km loops in a personal best for the distance in 7 hours and 33 minutes to claim 6th place and was part of the winning England team, regaining the Anglo-Celtic Plate.



Mathematics Department News

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

Junior Mathematics Challenge

Another successful entry into this year's competition.

Kieran Uphill Best in Year and Best in School: Silver Certificate

Matthew Walker: Bronze Certificate

Torin Rogers: Bronze Certificate

Ben Hopper: Bronze Certificate

Very commendable score obtained by Tom Carr in Year 7 who was also Best in Year. His total was the 5th highest in the group of 30 entered for the contest at this sitting!

Team Mathematics Challenge

Wyvern College was represented for the first time ever in this United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Team Maths Challenge Regional Final at Parkstone Grammar School, Poole, Dorset on Wednesday 22nd March 2017.

The Team

Daniel Couzens

Matthew Walker

Ethan Turner

Kieran Uphill (Team Captain)

We came 17th on the day. It was a very steep learning curve for the team, competing against the best of the best within the county.

Examination Period

All classes will have done their end of term assessments and will be sitting for End of Year Examinations in Term 6. Our Year 11 classes are continuing to attend interventions and also complete practice papers as recommended by their teachers.

All Year 11 pupils were given a Practice Paper 2 to complete over the holiday period and it is hoped they will also attend the Holiday Revision Classes.

Mathematics Master Classes

During Term 6 we shall hold a series of Mathematics Master Classes aimed to accelerate our pupils who are identified as having joined us with an old Level 5+. The aim will be to teach Additional Mathematics topics capable of ensuring stretch and challenge while grappling with exciting mathematics, making full use of the teaching technologies available.

GCSE Statistics

Our Year 10 Class will be sitting for the GCSE Statistics Final Examination on Thursday 22nd June 2017. This year will see the end of Coursework Tasks as a part of this subject.

Year 7 Figurative Sculpture Competition 2017

Well done to everyone who took part!



Winners

Winners

Finley Roberts 7W
Harrison Owen 7R
Martin Juhasz 7W
Nicholas Morabito 7L

Runners Up

Dylan Spittle 7R
Alan Hansford 7R
Seb Olliviere 7W
Ruben Conn 7R
Charlie Biancoli-Rogers 7L

Please can all winners and runners up come to the art room before the end of the day to pick up their prize and certificate.



Runners Up

For their homework this term, Year 7 were asked to create a piece of figurative sculpture for a competition, either a full body, head or hand/foot. They were asked to use a medium of their choice and be as imaginative as possible.

Over the last few weeks the art room has been filling up with sculptures and there have been many fantastic entries making the job of judging them very difficult. Thank you to the wonderful Mrs Bellamy for taking on this role!

The winners of the competition are as follows –

Finley Roberts 7W
Harrison Owen 7R
Martin Juhasz 7W
Nicholas Morabito 7L

Runners Up –

Dylan Spittle 7R
Alan Hansford 7R
Seb Olliviere 7W
Ruben Conn 7R
Charlie Biancoli-Rogers 7L

Year 5 Taster Day

Wednesday 28th June, 8.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.

We welcome all Year 5 boys to come and join us.

Experience the fantastic opportunities available at Wyvern College.

Only 90 spaces available so to avoid disappointment please use the booking form on our website.

Year 6 Open Evening for prospective parents and students

Thursday 28th September, 5.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

Headteacher's talk at 6.30 p.m.

An opportunity to see our stunning new school.

Tours throughout the evening.

Diary Dates

June 5 th		Term 6 Begins
June 7 th		Curriculum Acceleration Day
June 8 th	School Hall	Year 7 Parents' Evening
June 22 nd	School Hall	Year 8 Parents' Evening
June 28 th		Year 5 Taster Day
July 5 th		Year 6 Induction Day/ Induction Evening
July 7 th		Sports Day
July 12 th	10:30 – 11:30	Coffee Morning
July 14 th		Careers and Aspirations Day
July 21 st		End of Term 6

End of year exams

The table below gives dates and times of the end of year exams which will commence next term. If you would like to discuss these exams please contact your son's subject tutor.

Date	AM (Period 1 & 2)	Mid-morning (Period 3 & 4)	PM (Period 5)
Monday 19 th June			
Tuesday 20 th June			Year 9 PE exam
Wednesday 21 st June	Year 7 Catering 1 hour	Year 8 Catering 1 hour	Year 9 maths Exam 1 hour
Thursday 22 nd June	GCSE Statistics Year 10	Year 7 French Paper 1+2	Year 8 maths Exam 1 hour
Friday 23 rd June	Year 8 French Paper 1+2	Year 9 French Paper 1+2	Year 7 maths Exam 1 hour
Monday 26 th June	Year 7 Science Exam 1 1 hour	Year 10 PE exam	Year 9 RE Exam 1 hour
Tuesday 27 th June	Year 10 Maths paper 1	Year 9 science exam 1 1 hour	Year 7 English Exam
Wednesday 28 th June Year 5 taster day		Year 10 Maths paper 2	Year 8 English Exam
Thursday 29 th June	Year 10 Maths paper 3		Year 9 English Exam
Friday 30 th June	Year 10 English Language Paper 1		Year 9 Science Exam 2 1 hour
Monday 3 rd July	CoFE unit 3 RESIT YEAR 11	Year 10 RE Exam 1 hour 30	Year 8 Science Exam 1 1 hour
Tuesday 4 th July	Year 10 English Language Paper 2		Year 10 French paper 1
Wednesday 5 th July Year 6 taster day	Year 10 Science exam 1 1 hour	Year 10 collab exams RM Exam 2 hours Catering 1 hour	Year 8 Science Exam 2 1 hour
Thursday 6 th July		Year 10 option A subjects Geog 1 hour 30 French paper 2 and 3	Year 10 Science exam 2 1 hour