



31 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Head of Year Spring Update

With the Easter holidays upon us we wanted to take the time to share some highlights from the past term and things to look out for in the coming summer term.

With this being my first term in post, myself and Mrs Mawer have been very busy getting to know the year group and identifying how best we can support them. It has been a pleasure working with the students. They are a fantastic year group, with lots of potential. As a year group, they have received almost 30,000 reward points since September! We have the second-best attendance record in the school and are 1.9% above the National Average.

Assessments:

The students had their first taste of formal examinations this term and managed themselves very well. We were very impressed with how well the students coped and how they approached the mock examination period in February. A large number have then, more recently, completed their Pearson Set Assignments (PSA's) in IT, Enterprise or Health and Social Care. Again, it was pleasing to see so many of them applying themselves so well and demonstrating fantastic attitudes towards their work.

Rewards:

Last week, we took 30 students to Xscape in Milton Keynes where they had lunch and took part in some Ten Pin Bowling. These students were selected as a result of having the highest aggregate score of reward points minus consequence points. This trip was rearranged from the winter term. We will be taking the next trip, from this term's winners, after the Easter Holidays. For this next trip, we will take the top 25 students, using the same criteria, plus 5 others that are chosen by myself and Mrs Mawer. These 5 students will be chosen at our discretion based on a number of different factors.

We have held two praise assemblies this term with individual students receiving recognition for the positive behaviours that they have displayed around the school. In a lot of cases, students have received a small reward (such as an Easter egg, in this week's assembly) and contact has been made with home to share these successes.

The winner of the first Pizza challenge (tutor group with the highest aggregate score of reward points minus consequence points) was 10PGE. The winner's this time round was 10HI. Congratulations to both groups! Unfortunately for 10PGE they slipped from first place to last place without their inspirational leader, Mr Gale, being present for the last few weeks.

Next term:

The next set of mock exams will take place between 21st June and 7th July. Further information will come out in due course. In order to support students and parents/carers in preparing for these and any further upcoming exams, we will be hosting a 'supporting success evening' on Thursday 27th April. The focus will be on revision techniques, providing practical tips to help prepare the students. A letter detailing this evening will be sent home when we return after Easter.

As the temperatures now begin to rise there will be less need for students to wear their thick winter coats. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everybody of the uniform expectations...

- Black SHOES. Trainers are not permitted.
- Black trousers or skirt. Skirts must be knee length.
- Blue polo shirt with the Mark Rutherford logo.
- Black V-neck jumper with the Mark Rutherford logo.
- One studded earring per ear.
- Students are allowed to wear one nose stud, not a hoop.
- Acrylic nails are NOT permitted in school.

Students may require a thin jacket or a water proof when the weather is inclement. Hooded jumpers (with or without a zip) are NOT permitted.

Equipment:

Could we please use the time over the Easter holidays to replenish school equipment. All students must have:

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| A bag large enough for books and equipment (including boots AND trainers for all PE lessons) | Pencils |
| A pencil case | Rubber |
| Pens | Highlighter Pens |
| Ruler | Calculator |

This is the minimum that each student will require for their daily work.

Finally, we would just like to take this time to say thank you to all the Year 10 students and you, parents/careers for your continued hard work and support to the school. Your support is very much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing the students when they return and hope you all have a very happy two weeks.

Yours faithfully



Mr James Snowdon
Head of Year 10



Mrs Emma Mawer
Assistant Head of Year 10