



## Above and Beyond

One of our key aims last year was to increase further the range of activities we offer beyond the taught lessons. We did this very successfully with the launch of our Army Cadet Force and our first year as a rugby school linked to the RFU, as well as many additional trips and visits. This will be continuing and a list of extra-curricular activities is included in this newsletter.

## NCS Graduation

Some of our students worked with the National Citizen Service over the summer and were rewarded with certificates at the graduation last week. The commitment required of them and the impressive work that they completed is detailed below.

## Good Uniform

We have a simple but effective uniform which was designed by the students when we moved into our new building in 2009. I have been very impressed that students have started the new school year with very few uniform issues needing to be picked up. I outlined in assemblies last week that schools are expected to require students to wear their uniform to and from school and we will be continuing to do so.

## Mobile Phones

This isn't going to be another moan! There has been much in the news over the last week about students having mobile phones in school or schools not having policies. Headteachers nationally are frustrated that we have not been asked if any of this is correct, and various journalists and commentators have written their own views as if no school has yet given the issue a thought. We, of course, have had an effective mobile phone policy for many years, and so I watch the ongoing debate with sense of bemusement. Ministers are already indicating that they are considering imposing a policy: this is not necessary and individual schools should be allowed to make such a decision.

## Dates for 2015-16

This week's newsletter includes key dates for the year. Parents are asked to make a note and keep the list handy. Reminders and additional dates will be issued via the weekly newsletter. Additional dates and term dates for 2016-17 are available on the website.

Sean Hayes

## Key Dates for 2015-16

### Autumn Term

29 September	Celebration of Achievement Evening
6 October	Year 6 Open Evening
23 October	Staff Training Day – school closed
26 – 30 October	Half Term Holiday
17 November	Post 16 Options Evening
24 November	Parents' Evening – Yrs 7, 10, 12, 13
18 December	Term Ends

### Spring Term

4 January 2016	Term Begins
6 January	Certificate Evening
19 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
26 January	Key Stage 4 Options Evening
15-19 February	Half Term Holiday
22 February	Staff Training Day – school closed
15 March	Parents' Evening – Yrs 11, 12, 13
23 March	Term Ends

### Summer Term

11 April	Term Begins
2 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
17 May	Parents' Evening – Yrs 7, 8, 9
30 May – 3 June	Half Term Holiday
14 June	Year 10 Information Evening
6 July	Year 6 Welcome Day
22 July	St John Fisher Day/Term Ends

## Celebration of Achievement

**Tuesday 29 September – 7.00 pm**

All invited students **must** return their reply slips by Wednesday 23 September.

## Educational Psychology Service

### Parent/Carers Consultation Service

The Educational Psychology Service offers consultations for parents and carers who have concerns about their child's development and progress. The slots for this term are:

10 September 2015	1.00 – 4.00 pm
8 October 2015	1.00 – 4.00 pm
19 November 2015	1.00 – 4.00 pm
10 December 2015	1.00 – 4.00 pm

Appointments need to be booked one month in advance and can be done so by calling 01733 863689 / 863792.  
Catherine Wilson, SENCO

## Enrichment Activities

Monday				Wednesday			
<b>Tutor Time</b>				<b>Lunchtime</b>			
Violin Club	All	8.40 – 9.00	Practice Rm	Fun Maths	All	1.15 – 1.50	Room 202
<b>Lunchtime</b>				Manga Appreciation Soc	All	1.15 – 1.55	Room 303
Product Design	Yrs 10-11	1.15 – 1.50	Room 305	Programming Club	Year 9	1.20 – 1.50	Room 105
Breakers Club	All	1.10-1.45	Room 205	Breakers Club	All	1.10-1.45	Room 205
Classics Support	Year 11	1.10 – 2.00	Room 109	Science Club	Yrs 7&8	1.30-1.55	Room 308
Culture Club	All	1.10 – 2.00	Room 108	Multi Sports Club	All	1.25 – 1.50	Sports Hall
Poetry Club	Yrs 7-11	1.20 – 1.45	Room 112	Pop Rock Choir	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 102
Music Club	Yrs 7, 8, 9	1.30 – 1.55	Practice Rms	<b>After School</b>			
Producers	Yrs 10-13	1.30 – 1.55	Mac Room	Food Tech (Wk2)	Yr 11	3.20 – 4.00	Room 306
Ukulele Club	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 101	Period 5 Maths	Yrs 12-13	3.15 – 4.15	Room 201
Concert Band	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 102	Computing Surgery	Year 11	3.15 – 4.15	Rm 105 & 211
<b>After School</b>				Business Surgery	Year 11	3.15 – 4.15	Room 103
Combined Cadet Force	All	3.50-5.00	Tennis Courts	Art Intervention	Yrs 10-13	3.15 – 4.15	Rm 302 & 303
Football Club	All	3.15 – 4.30	Courts/Sp Hall	<b>Thursday</b>			
Football Club	All	3.15 – 4.30	Astro Turf	<b>Tutor Time</b>			
GCSE PE Support	Year 11	3.15 – 4.30	Classroom	Music Theory (Wk2)	Year 11	8.40 – 9.00	Practice Rm
Period 5 Maths	Year 11	3.15 – 4.15	Maths rooms	<b>Lunchtime</b>			
Food Tech (Wk2)	Yr 11	3.20 – 4.00	Room 306	Breakers Club	All	1.10-1.45	Room 205
Product Design	Yrs 10-11	3.20-4.30	Room 305	Technology Club	Yrs 7,8,9	1.15 – 1.50	Room 305
English Support	Yrs 10-11	3.15 – 4.15	English rooms	Spanish Club	Yrs 7-11	1.20 – 1.50	Room 206
Young Enterprise	Year 12	3.15 – 4.15	Room 103	Multi Sports Club	All	1.25 – 1.50	Sports Hall
Business Drop-In	Year 13	3.15 – 4.10	Room 113	Music Club	Yrs 7, 8, 9	1.30 – 1.55	Practice Rms
Latin for Beginners	All	3.30 – 4.15	Room 109	Producers	Yrs 10-13	1.30 – 1.55	Mac Room
<b>Tuesday</b>				SJF Singers	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 102
<b>Lunchtime</b>				<b>After School</b>			
Breakers Club	All	1.10-1.45	Room 205	Food Tech (Wk1)	Yr 11	3.20 – 4.00	Room 306
Food Tech Club	Yrs 7,8,9	1.15-1.50	Room 306	Product Design	Yr 11	3.20 – 4.30	Room 305
Classics Support	Year 11	1.10 – 2.00	Room 109	RE P5	Year 11	3.15 – 4.00	RE Rooms
Newspaper	Yrs 7-11	1.20 – 1.45	Room 112	BTEC IT Help	Yrs 12-13	3.15 – 4.15	Room 105
RE Debating Soc	Yrs 9-13	1.25-1.50	Room 208	<b>Friday</b>			
French Homework	Yrs 7-9	1.20 – 1.50	Room 204	<b>Tutor Time</b>			
Multi Sports Club	All	1.25 – 1.50	Sports Hall	Grade 5 Music Theory	Yr 13	8.40 – 9.00	Practice Rms
Music Club	Yrs 7, 8, 9	1.30 – 1.55	Practice Rms	<b>Lunchtime</b>			
Technology Club	Yrs 7,8,9	1.15 – 1.50	Room 305	Classics Club	Yrs 7, 8, 9	1.10 – 2.00	Room 109
Producers	Yrs 10-13	1.30 – 1.55	Mac Room	Breakers Club	All	1.10-1.45	Room 205
Music Theory (Wk1)	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 101	French Homework	Yrs 10-11	1.20 – 1.50	Room 206
SJF Singers	All	1.30 – 1.55	Room 102	Music Club	Yrs 7, 8, 9	1.30 – 1.55	Practice Rms
				Producers	Yrs 10-13	1.30 – 1.55	Mac Room
				Drum Club	All	1.30 – 1.55	Practice Room
				<b>After School</b>			
				Art Intervention	Yrs 10-13	3.15 – 4.15	Rm 302 & 303

### Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

7 Year 11 Bronze Award candidates recently passed the expedition part of their award. The expedition requires participants to walk and camp for two days with a minimum of help from staff. The participants all worked extremely well together sharing roles and even helping out with carrying kit. Each group covered 13 kilometres each day walking for about 5 hours with fully loaded rucksacks! This was not a race but more of a mini marathon. What an amazing result!

Once the expedition is recorded onto electronic record books our candidates will then complete the three other sections which are *skills* (learning a new skill), *volunteering* (helping out at school such as being in our school choir) and *physical recreation* (which could involve attending lunchtime sports clubs). All 7 DofE students will hopefully complete their full Bronze award by this December.

A very big thank you to Miss Young, Mr Philpott and Mrs Davey for giving up so much of their spare time to make DofE happen. It would not run without them.

The DofE staff team are looking into running a new Bronze award this term. Details available shortly. Watch this space!  
*Mr Jones, DofE Co-ordinator*

### New Reward Policy

The new reward system has already proven to be a great success with over 1800 merits awarded since the start of term, this is a 30% increase on the same time last year. The top form so far is R7, led by Dr Karangi with other tutor groups close behind. All members of staff within the school are actively looking to reward great performance both in and out of lessons. Students can collect merits and then exchange them for a reward of their choice including phone cases, music vouchers or a lunch with friends. Students who achieve 300 merits will be entitled to a visit to a theme park at the end of the year. So please continue to work hard and gain the rewards.

*Mr Van Lier*