

Ref:\HoY\13\Leavers 18 March 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

I do hope that the Easter holiday proves to be both recuperative and constructive. I hope too that your son can draw strength from some 'mock examination' success and learn from mistakes made as he enters the 'final furlong'. This applies as equally to those students applying to high tariff courses at university as to those aiming at Post 18 employment, FE or training who may have already met their entry requirements. Those students who have received 'Unconditional Offers' can enjoy having an external pressure lifted but must appreciate that the graduate job market is competitive and already using UCAS points totals as part of their success criteria. If there are areas of the syllabus that prove particularly difficult students must note them and then inform teachers next term to allow time for clarification. Similarly, students should avail themselves of any extra revision sessions arranged outside timetabled lessons. How effectively your son applies himself over the next ten weeks will have a very significant bearing on the final outcome of his 'A' levels; the range of opportunities that will remain open to him subsequently and the confidence that he will have as he begins his next chapter. He must neither underestimate the volume of work that remains to be done nor his capacity to work the long hours needed. Executing his final plans with energy and resilience provides the best chance for him to ensure that he finishes his time at King's in the way that best reflects his talents. We can only ever do our best, so let that be the final mission.

Written Examinations (Monday 14 May-Thursday 25 June)

The examination period stretches over seven weeks and can be disruptive. The school's arrangements are designed to provide maximum flexibility for individual students' timetables but also to enable crucial teaching and revision to continue. Consequently students may only revise at home in the session immediately before any examination they are sitting (but may of course revise from home during timetabled Independent Study periods). Once again there will be no Games on Wednesday afternoons during the examination period. I stress that teachers will be teaching throughout the examination period. It is essential that students have checked their examination timetables and planned the details of their final revision around them.

Leavers' Supper - Old School - Thursday 29 June 2016 - 6.30 for 7.00pm - 9.00pm

The Leaver's Supper has become a most enjoyable post examination finale. Students are invited to arrive on the Newton Lawn in suits or school uniform at 6.30pm to enable photographs to be taken. The supper begins in Old School at 7.00pm and will be accompanied by some live music, brief speeches from the Head Master, Head of Sixth and the Head Boy who also organises a range of 'presentations'. Modestly priced tickets will be available via Mrs Heather Brown in the Sixth Form Office. The evening will end at approximately 9.00pm.

It has been a genuine pleasure to have worked so closely with 'The Class of '18'. They have enjoyed successes across all academic subjects; they have secured offers to a range of the very best universities; to 'top' colleges of music; into HM Forces and competitive Apprenticeships. The majority have contributed generously and successfully to the diverse sporting, musical, cultural and volunteering arenas which make King's so special to us all. Just as importantly they have formed lifelong friendships; have seen the rewards that come to those who apply and organise themselves and the unnecessary difficulties that face those who do not; these Kingsmen have also contributed to the fabric of a community that whilst advocating, enabling and celebrating excellence, is sensitive, proactive and responsive to those facing adversity and challenge. I thank them most sincerely for this.

As your son's time at King's enters effectively its last half term I am confident that he will build on these experiences. I am equally confident that he has the qualities and values to reach his potential and contribute fully to the exciting wider world that awaits. Therein lies happiness, fulfilment and success.

On behalf of the sixth form staff I would like to thank students for their good humour and continued co-operation and parents for your help and willingness to work constructively with the school.

Yours sincerely

N C Barton Assistant Head Teacher Head of Sixth Form