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12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Expectation Assemblies in the First Week

Each age group of students between Year 7 and 11 have been in the Hall and had term starting with a traditional expectation assembly. Here we are able to talk about many of the positives over the Autumn as well as setting students up for the months ahead. We have focused on our high expectations of them as well as talking about keeping themselves safe online.

Uniform

We are spending some time at the moment reinforcing with students our school uniform policy. Our uniform is important to us for lots of reasons and we ask that students, parents and carers take the time to remind themselves of our expectations which are published on the website Chew Valley School - School Uniform. I would add that the vast majority of our student population look fantastic in their uniform whilst at school.

We have mentioned to students that we have, along with our governors, been reviewing aspects of this for the Summer when it gets much warmer and we will publish more detail later this term.

GCSE and A Level Certificate Presentation Evening

It was lovely to be able to welcome back to Chew Valley students who left us last July along with a good number of our current Year 12 with members of their families on the evening of Thursday 4th January in order to pass them their examination certificates. We hope to stay in contact with as many of them as possible in the future.

Year 9 Options Assembly and Evening

Year 9 students, along with parents and carers, have now had the opportunity to listen to Mrs Rowlands talk through our options process for choosing courses that begin in September. If there are any questions about this, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

A large number of students in Year 10 who have now gained their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh were acknowledged in the Year 10 Expectation Assembly and received certificates and badges. They have completed their expeditions, taken part in their volunteering, worked on a physical activity and developed a skill in a chosen area and congratulations go to them all. A good number of them will continue into the Silver and Gold sections as they progress through the school as other students in older years are currently doing. A big thank you to all of the staff and other adults who have supported them with this.

Consolidation Weeks for KS3 Classes

We are focusing on work away from the classroom and as part of our strategy we are continuing with 'consolidation weeks' for Years 7, 8 and 9. These are not weeks where no work is completed but are scheduled that no new work will be published. Tutors are working with students about how the time around this can be used effectively. For this term they are as follows:

Years 7 and 9 - weeks beginning 22nd January and 11th March
Year 8 - weeks beginning 15th January and 4th March

Returning To School Following Half Term

We break for half term on Friday 9th February. Staff will be in school on a Lighthouse Schools Partnership Trust **INSET** day training on **Monday I 9th February** with the rest of the school community returning to school on **Tuesday 20th February**.

As ever please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions. We are looking forward to a successful term ahead.

With very best wishes,

Gareth Beynon Headteacher

Key Dates

Thursday 18th January Thursday 1st February

Monday I2th to Friday I6th February

Monday 19th February Thursday 7th March Wednesday 27th March Thursday 28th March

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April

Thursday 2nd May Wednesday 22nd May

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Monday 17th June to Friday 21st June

Thursday 20th June Thursday 27th June Tuesday 2nd July **Tuesday 23rd July** Year 9 Parents' Evening Year 11 Parents' Evening

Half Term INSET Day

Year 12 Parents' Evening Meet with Tutors in school

INSET Day

Easter Holidays

Year 8 Parents' Evening Year 7 Parents' Evening

Half Term

Enrichment Week

Year 12 Information for Parents Evening

Sixth Form Induction
Year 6 Induction

End of the Summer Term