



December 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 12 & 13 End of Term Letter

This has been a very long and busy term, with many activities in Sixth Form: parents' evenings, educational visits and trips, work experience, awarding of certificates, presentation assemblies as well as many House activities in which the Sixth Form take an important leading role in the school.

The Year 12 students, on the whole, have settled well into Sixth Form and are making the necessary adjustments to the demands of A level teaching and more independent learning. The jump to A level, where studying only three subjects but requiring much more depth of knowledge, evaluation and analysis, can be huge and very challenging to Year 12 students and it often takes perseverance and hard work to adjust. We also encourage the Sixth form students to develop wider experiences and to take up opportunities which challenge them to "step outside of their comfort zone" and many have done this with great enthusiasm this term.

The Year 13 are working very hard and have been planning their next steps, whether it is thinking about a gap year, applying for apprenticeships, foundation courses or jobs, or completing their UCAS forms for university; many of the students are now receiving offers from their chosen universities.

The Sixth Form students have participated in numerous extra-curricular activities this term as well as volunteering in and out of school. Many have supported PTA events and House events, helped with the younger years in departments and classroom attachment, led the school council and assisted in peer mentoring and assemblies. Several Year 12 and 13s have tried out their debating skills in competitions and have enjoyed the whole experience.

There have been a number of trips in a variety of subjects: Biology, Geography, Psychology, History, Art, Economics and Business. There have been several visits to lectures and conferences at Eton and Wellington College and the whole of Year 13 went to the Hexagon last month for the Drive Alive safety talks. We are also hoping to book a London theatre trip for both years in February or March after the PPEs.

We plan to celebrate the end of term and the beginning of the Christmas break on Wednesday with mince pies and a few nibbles, followed by the school Christmas assembly, led by the Sixth form.

The Spring term for Sixth form will begin on Thursday 4th January. Year 13 will be starting with their PPEs and study leave. The Year 12 PPEs will not begin until after half term.

Thank you all very much for your support during the term and please do not hesitate to contact the Sixth Form team if you have any queries or worries.

Wishing you all a safe and very happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Kemp
Head of Sixth Form
Teaching & Learning

Mrs J Bellis
Head of Sixth Form
Pastoral