



Kingsdown Secondary School

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

17TH September 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

A very warm welcome back to all parents, both old and new and I hope that you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer holiday. I am sure that all the children are looking forward to the exciting challenges that lie ahead particularly our year 11 students who will be doing their GCSE's and BTEC exams this academic year. I think some of you are probably quite relieved that the long summer holidays have come to an end. I do hope you feel refreshed and ready for the new academic year. We extend a special welcome to the new families starting this term.

I would like to congratulate our year 11 and 10 students who took different exams during the 2014-2015 academic and passed. We would like to encourage our current year 11 students to work even harder to achieve better grade this academic year. Most of our students' performance goes to show what our students can achieve if they put their minds to it. We also think our teachers deserve praise for all their hard work – they never give up and it pays off in the end.

I have the pleasure in enclosing a copy of the timetable, student target sheet, term dates and information on PE to this letter. The whole school PE is scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays. Please note which days your son/ward will need PE kit. I am also enclosing a copy of the homework timetable. Please encourage your son/ward to complete all his homework to the best of his ability – not only will it deepen and reinforce his understanding it will also help him develop those vital skills of independent learning. Home work will be set for the term as a project and in addition to that individual teachers will be sending weekly homework.

Attendance

We would like to congratulate students who worked hard to achieve 85% and above in attendance last term. We hope they will even do better this term and those who could not achieved their target are encourage to put in more effort this term. Attending is the first step to achieving good results. We will therefore continue to work with parent/carers and other partners to help improve the attendance of our boys. May I remind parents/carers to inform the office if their son/ward is going to be absent and also try to put other non emergency appointments outside school hours where possible?

Safeguarding

It will be nice if we are able to encourage our children/wards to be more careful and vigilant when using the internet and other social media platforms. There has been an increase in the use of different devices to access information and also communicate using the internet and

its associate services. Notwithstanding the benefits the use of internet brings us, it can sometimes expose our students to undesirable information and therefore put them in vulnerable situations. We will be doing our part to continue to educate our students in safer internet use. We have also invited the Met police to lead workshop on preventing violent extremism which has been fuelled in recent months by the use of internet.

Uniform

We would be grateful if all parents/carers could ensure that their child is dressed in the correct uniform. Trousers should be tailored and black. Shoes should be black or dark navy blue. PE kit should be worn for all PE lessons, and should be in school every Monday and Thursday. We suggest that trainers are appropriate for the field.

Time keeping

As usual it is worth emphasizing that the school doors open at 8.25 a.m. All pupil need to arrive by 8.40 a.m. to give them time to hang up coats and get organized before 8.45 a.m. If students want to be part of the breakfast they should try to be in school on time and before 8:40 am.

We have found that students coming late to school found it difficult to settle in lessons and sometimes might last for the whole day. This could go a long way to affect their achievement.

Behaviour and Reward

We would like to encourage parents/carers to discourage their child/ward from bringing lighters and cigarettes to school. We would confiscate any of such items we will find on them according to our school policy on smoking. We are planning to bring professionals involved in smoking awareness education to do workshop to help them. Parents/wards could also encourage their child /ward to seek other help where necessary.

Mobile phones should be kept home or hand in to staff on duty first thing in the morning. Phones are normally giving back to students at the end of the day. The use of mobiles phones in schools distract our students from concentrating on their academic work. We look forward to working with parent/carers to support our students to achieve.

Music

We have the pleasure to inform parents/carers of our new music department. Students used to do music as an optional subject during vocational studies outside the school. Students will be learning how to use different equipments and software like Fruity Loops and Reason to create their own piece of work. We hope to expand the department gradually.

Vocational Education

Those who came to the summer term parent's consultation will recollect of the mentioning of a change of venue for our vocational studies from Nightingale school to Nescot College. This academic year our students will have the opportunity to study construction which comprises brick laying, carpentry, metal work, plastering and painting and decorating. All students are supposed to go to vocational studies on Tuesday.

We made this change to give our students the opportunity to have college life experience to support their transition to college at appropriate time. Nescot College is also giving us a good service and a better curriculum. On Tuesdays the whole of the construction department will be exclusively used by our students under the tuition of Nescot college tutors supported by our staff.

The Term Ahead

Vocational education at Nescot College is on Tuesday every week (this helps our students to acquire vocational qualification in addition to academic qualifications)

Whole school PE on Mondays and Thursdays (Need for students to bring in PE kit)

Break up Friday 23rd October for autumn half term

(26th October – 30th October 2015)

Monday 2nd November (Staff Inset)

Pupil return on Tuesday 3rd November 2015

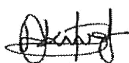
Friday 11th December 2015 (term ends)

Thursday 10th December: parent/carer consultation & Christmas lunch

I have included the term dates to this letter where you can find out for spring and summer terms.

With best wishes

Yusif Assim



Head of School