



**Wimbledon
College**

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Headteacher's End of Year Letter to Parents

Tuesday 26 July 2022

Dear Parents

A busy and eventful last week has brought what has been a demanding year to an end in a very positive way. The two days of house activities and sports day were engaged in extremely positively by the pupils and they resulted in Loyola House winning the overall House Competition for 2021/22. We finished the year with the traditional Mass of St Ignatius where we remembered, celebrated and thanked God for everything that has taken place over the course of the academic year.

Covid continued to impact on the health and attendance of both pupils and staff all year and I am grateful for the way in which everyone has persevered to ensure that our pupils have been able to once again experience all elements of school life. It has been wonderful to see extracurricular activities return to something close to the breadth of offer pre Covid and to see pupils participating in school trips, the most recent being the highly successful Pilgrimage and Choir Tour to Rome.

In addition, we have also seen the embedding of our timetabled PSHE programme and a much enhanced Careers offer for all pupils as well as additional support for our more able pupils. It is fantastic that five of our Year 13 pupils have offers of places at Oxbridge along with a confirmed place for one of our 2021 leavers. This is the highest number for over 20 years. We wish them and all Rhetoric and Syntax pupils well with their exam results in August.

As a school community we suffered the death of two staff, Mr Jack Berry and Mrs. Jen Lawrence in the Autumn term. The response both from within the school community and from the wider community was a tremendous support and we continue to remember them both, and their families, in our prayers.

As this term has come to an end we have seen the scaffolding rise above the roof of the school in preparation for the replacement of part of the roof over the summer holidays. It is expected that the work will continue into next term however this will not impact on teaching spaces. As the summer holidays begin the school is busy with numerous contractors working in different areas of the site to renovate and improve our facilities in preparation for September.



*A Jesuit school founded in 1892
for improvement in living and learning
to the greater glory of God and the common good*

Staff leaving

We say farewell to a number of staff leaving us at the end of the year. Amongst them are two members of staff who have both been members of the school community for the last twenty years. Mrs. O'Grady has supported both pupils and staff in her role as Higher Line Pastoral Support Assistant since 2002 and before that she worked at St Catherine's Middle School from 1995 to 2002. Mrs. Weeks, in her role as a Learning Support Assistant has worked closely with many pupils over the twenty years. Both will be sorely missed and we wish them a very happy retirement.

Mr Hoban is retiring from teaching and his role as Head of Line [having seen the current Syntax year group through to their GCSE examinations], which he has held for the last eight years. Before that he had taught at Raynes Park High School for 27 years. While wishing him a happy retirement we are not saying farewell. He will be back with us in September in a non-teaching role.

Other staff leaving the College this year are Miss Ayari [LSA], Mr Brewster [LSA], Mr Keane [PE & Science teacher], Mr Mundy [English teacher and TSA], Ms Spyropoulos [LSA] and Mrs. Van Moer [LSA]

On behalf of the College community I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for everything that they have contributed to the College and wish them every success in the future.

Jesuit Pupil Profile Certificates for Years 7-10

Parents of pupils in Years 7-10 will have received their child's end of year Jesuit Pupil Profile certificate. The Jesuit Pupil Profile draws together the virtues that the College seeks to develop in all pupils. Based on the achievements and actions that pupils demonstrate over the course of the year, they are recognised as either 'Emerging', 'Developing' or 'Embodying' in each virtue.

Parent Information Evenings - September 2022

Looking forward to the start of the new year I wanted to give you the dates for our Parent Briefings so that you can add them to your diaries. They are as follows:

12/09/2022	Y7 Parents' Briefing	6.00pm – 7.00pm
13/09/2022	Y8 Parents' Briefing	6.00pm – 7.00pm
13/09/2022	Y12 Parents' Briefing	6.45pm – 7.45pm
14/09/2022	Y9 Parents' Briefing	6.00pm – 7.00pm
14/09/2022	Y11 Parents' Briefing	6.45pm – 7.45pm
15/09/2022	Y10 Parents' Briefing	6.00pm – 7.00pm
15/09/2022	Y13 Parents' Briefing	6.45pm – 7.45pm



Parent Survey

I would like to thank all of our parents who responded to our survey earlier this term. We received 546 responses that were overwhelmingly positive. A number of areas have been identified and we raised them with parents who attended our Parent Forum. An overview of the survey responses is below and we will be sending out a summary of the Parent Forum discussions at the beginning of next term.

School Ethos

Parents strongly agree (over 95%) with the following

- There is strong Christian leadership within the school.
- The school has a caring atmosphere with relationships based on Gospel values.
- The traditions and practices of the Catholic Church are implicit in the life of the school.
- The school provides good opportunities for the pupils' spiritual development.
- Religious education has a high profile within the school.

Pupil Welfare

Parents strongly agree (over 90%) with the following

- My son is happy at school
- My son feels safe at school
- The College has a calm, orderly environment which helps my son to learn

Curriculum

Parents strongly agree (over 90%) with the following

- The College has high expectations of my son
- The College curriculum engages my son in learning
- There is a good range of subjects available to my son at the College
- My son is becoming an independent learner
- The College provides pupils with clear guidance on health, personal growth and moral development (e.g. PSHE)

Parents agreed with the following (over 85%)

- My son can take part in clubs and activities
- Teacher feedback helps my son to know his next steps and how to progress

Parents agreed with the following (over 80%)

- The College makes me aware of what my son will learn during the year
- My son is making good progress at school
- My son receives unbiased and effective careers advice, information and guidance

Communication

Parents agreed with the following (over 85%)

- Communication from the school is effective and timely
- The College lets me know how my son is progressing
- When I have raised concerns with the College they have been dealt with promptly

95% of Parents would recommend the College to other parents



Examination results days

Key dates:

A Level and Sixth Form vocational results are available from school on **Thursday 18 August from 8.30am - 9.30am**, in the Sixth Form Study Hall. Staff will be available to support pupils during the morning.

GCSE and Syntax vocational results are available from school on **Thursday 25 August from 8.30am until 9.30am** in the main hall.

Pupils should collect their own results. Prior notice is required if another family member needs to pick up results for a pupil. If this is necessary then please email either Mr Murphy (philip.murphy@wimbledoncollege.org.uk) or the Examinations Officer (exams@wimbledoncollege.org.uk). The family member will also need to provide identification.

Sixth Form Enrolment

Syntax pupils have already received information about enrolment and I am aware Mrs Town has sent a letter to parents explaining this year's enrolment process.

Once pupils have received their results on Thursday 25 August they will be able to complete their online enrolment form on Applicaa. They will be able to do this in school and this should be completed by 11.00am [computer rooms will be available].

If pupils wish to consider an alternative course or have not met their course requirements they will be asked to speak with a member of the enrolling team. This will take place as follows on the 25 August:

9.00am Pupils with surnames A - L
11.00am Pupils with surnames M - Z

I would like to remind you that pupils will require their passports and means to pay the appropriate fees.

Uniform

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for ensuring that your sons come to school with the correct uniform and with an appropriate hair style.

I am aware that many of you will be buying new shoes for your sons over the summer and I direct you to the uniform and suitable shoe pages on our website [The Policies and Procedures page of the Parents section] for the relevant information about what shoes are acceptable. I would like to emphasise that we insist on *black, leather, plain, formal and polished shoes*. I



must also point out that our list of unacceptable brands is not exhaustive. They are simply given as examples. I must emphasise that shoes that have the appearance of trainers are not acceptable.

Rugby pre-season training and match day teas

Mr Hallett has asked me to provide you with the details of our initial training session for the new season, which will take place from the 30 August to 2 September for boys in Years 8 -13.

All players are encouraged to attend the sessions detailed below. Our fixtures start on Saturday 10 September.



WIMBLEDON COLLEGE

Pre-season Rugby

2022 – 23 SEASON



ALL
PUPILS ARE
WELCOME
TO ATTEND

Please arrive 15mins
before the start of the
session



YEAR GROUP	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY VENUE	VENUE
8	30 th August	10.00 – 11.30	Pre-season Training	Coombe Lane
9	31 st August	10.00 – 11.30	Pre-season Training	Coombe Lane
10	30 th August	10.00 – 11.30	Pre-season Training	Coombe Lane
11	30 th August 31 st August	10.00 – 11.30	Pre-season Training	Coombe Lane
12 & 13	30 th , 31 st August & 2 nd September	10.00 – 11.30 15.30 – 17.00	Pre-season Training	Coombe Lane

Mr Hallett is also looking for more parents to volunteer to help with match teas. We provide teas for players and staff following our home fixtures on Saturdays and the teas are greatly appreciated by visiting teams as well as our own. If you are able to give some time on a Saturday morning please do contact Mr Hallett [neil.hallett@wimbledoncollege.org.uk].

Rhetoric Rugby Tour to Portugal

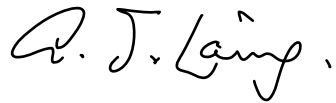
A reminder for senior players that the deadline for returning slips for the Rhetoric Portugal '23 Tour is Monday 5 September 2022. Please make sure that they are handed in on time.

Start of Autumn Term

May I remind you that all pupils return to school on Monday 5 September. There is a staggered start to the day with Years 7 and 12 start at 8.30am and the rest of the school starting at 11.00am.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer.

God bless,



Adrian Laing

Headteacher

