



# Wimbledon College

## Head Master's Letter to Parents

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents

As you are aware our busy term was added to by our Ofsted visit at the beginning of December. We are still awaiting the letter following the inspection and hopefully it will be published early in the New Year. I will send out a copy to all parents when we have received it. With reference to the inspection I would like to thank all of you who took the time to complete the Ofsted questionnaire. The results are available on line and you will see that there are over 230 responses. This is a very high number compared to other schools.

The inspection, while very important to us, was only a small part of the term compared to the wide variety of activities that have been undertaken by pupils and staff. I know that without your support for the school and your sons we would not be as successful as we are. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support.

One of the measures of our success is our progress score at KS4 [The measure by which the Government measures schools]. This year it is 0.47 against a national average of 0 for all pupils and a national average for boys of -0.24. Zero means that compared to the rest of the country pupils made expected progress. Our score means on average that our boys made half a grade more progress in every subject compared to the national average and three quarters of a grade more progress compared to boys nationally. Our score places us in the top 7% of schools nationally.

## Report Card and set changes

Your son's report card is being sent home with him today. When comparing your son's grades with his target grade please bear in mind that the target is where he should be at the end of the academic year. At the beginning of the year, grades may be slightly below target grades but as the year progresses assessments should generally meet or exceed target grades. If you have any concerns about your son's target grades, or about his progress in general, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Head of Line. Any missing work is clearly shown on the report card and your support is appreciated in following up missed work with your son.

We have made a number of set changes across a number of subject areas that will come into effect after Christmas and boys affected will be informed of them at the beginning of next term.

#### **Stem4 and mental health awareness.**

Mr Potter would like to send out a massive thank you to all of you who have helped encourage your sons in taking on sponsored challenges for the local mental health charity Stem4 this Advent. There is still plenty of time for boys to take up a challenge if they have not done so already. Challenges like doing a sponsored silence, going without technology for a number of hours, a bike ride, or running laps around the block or local park, are all things that can be done in a short space of time but can raise vital money for this great local charity. Boys can take all over the holidays to finish any challenges and to collect sponsorship. We would like to strongly encourage boys to use the online giving page :

[https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Wimb\\_Coll\\_AdventFundraising2017](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Wimb_Coll_AdventFundraising2017)

to send out to friends and family as a great way of getting sponsored (with the potential to get an extra 25% on donations through Gift Aid from anyone who is a UK tax payer)."

#### **The History of the College and 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Merchandise**

As we come to the end of our anniversary year I would like to remind you that the 'Wimbledon College, the First 125 Years' [a history of the College written by three former staff] and merchandise produced to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary are still available to purchase from the school. We currently are offering a reduction on the price of the history [£20] and on the College umbrella [£15]. Further details are available on the College website.

<http://www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk/125>

#### **House points and competitions**

The House points system rewarding positive attitudes to work, positive behaviour and contributions to the life of the school both in terms of House events and representing the school (e.g. sport) continues to thrive and as you can see below the race for top spot is as tight as always. Well done to all of the boys for their efforts and to More House who top the list at Christmas.

*The end of term the House totals are as follows:*

More	15809
Southwell	15447
Fisher	15398
Owen	15060
Xavier	14836
Loyola	14655
Campion	14596
Hurtado	14331

*Other key results are:*

*Top tutor group totals*

Figures More	4168
Figures Loyola	3846
Lower Grammar Hurtado	3753
Figures Southwell	3750
Lower Grammar Fisher	3619

*Top tutor groups for attendance*

Grammar More	97.5%
Figures Fisher	97.5%
Grammar Fisher	97.3%
Grammar Hurtado	97.3%
Syntax Fisher	96.8%
Figures Owen	96.8%

## **Rugby**

Our fifteen a side season has now come to a close, with one notable exception. Our Under15A team have reached the last sixteen of the National Nat West Cup and are due to play their next fixture against St Joseph's, Ipswich, in January. This is the furthest that the College has ever progressed in this competition and it is a real achievement for the team and their coach, Mr Milloy. I am sure that you will join with me in wishing them the very best in the next round.

Overall this year there were 191 fixtures played, 105 won, 9 drawn & 77 lost. This equates to a win percentage of 54%.

Thank you to all of the boys who have trained and played throughout the season and who have represented the College so positively. Thank you also to all of their parents who have supported them.

## **Football**

Our Saturday fixtures commence after Christmas and I would ask that any parents who are able to help with the provision of our hospitality to players after the fixtures please contact Mr Barnes. Thank you.

## **Boxing**

Building upon last year's success, the College Boxing Club continues to provide opportunities for boys to box competitively at amateur level. Thus far this season, there have been two boys who have competed competitively. Adam Al Molla [Grammar Campion] and Cameron Lewis [Grammar Xavier] took part in their first ever competitive bout representing Wimbledon College. Both boys fought gallantly and Cameron Lewis achieved a points win

over his opponent. This was a great achievement not least of all due to his opponent boxing from a very established club. We have some very exciting and promising young talent coming through the club's ranks with high hopes for continued success in 2018.

### **Uniform and haircuts**

It is pleasing to see that the vast majority of boys are wearing their uniform correctly however I would like to remind you of the school's clear expectations on uniform requirements and on outer clothing that boys will be wearing as the temperature drops over the coming months. I would ask that you ensure that your son has the correct uniform for the new term and that he is wearing it every day. We do sanction boys for incorrect uniform. This can be easily avoided by the boys being properly attired at all times both on the way to and from school as well as when they are in school.

The requirements are listed in the uniform section of the boys' handbooks. Boys in Lower Line must only wear the College reversible coat. Boys in Higher Line are allowed to wear the College coat or a plain black coat, with sleeves, that does not have a logo or a hood [including hoods that roll up into the coat]. Any **other items of clothing** (hats, gloves, scarves) are to plain [i.e. no pattern, with the exception of the school scarf] and to conform in colour (dark green, dark maroon, grey, dark blue or black) and style so as to be compatible with and not detract from the school uniform. Prominent logos or wording are not permitted. Hats must not have a peak.

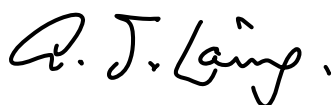
I would also like to remind you that boys' hairstyles should be in keeping with the formality of school life. Extreme styles as listed in the Homework Diary are not acceptable.

Finally shoes should be in line with College expectations which can be found in the boys' diaries and which are available on the College website.

**Next term starts on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

On behalf of all of the staff at Wimbledon College I would like to wish you an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Adrian Laing

Head Master

## **Wimbledon College Twitter accounts**

The College has a number of twitter accounts that are regularly updated sharing news about what is happening at the College. Please do follow us and also if you are happy to do so please retweet messages. The accounts are:

**@Wimb\_Coll**

**@Wimb\_Coll\_Rugby**

**@Wimb\_Coll\_Music**

**@Wimb\_Coll\_Chap** (Chaplaincy)

**@Wimb\_Coll\_Art**