



Wimbledon College

Head Master's Summer Half-Term Letter to Parents

Wednesday 30 May 2018

Dear Parents

Report Card [Pupils in Years 7-10 & 12]

If your son is in Years 7-10 or 12 you should have received your son's grade card on Friday. As with previous grade cards you will see your son's target grade on it and by this point in the year you should be seeing him achieving grades close to his targets. If you, or your son, feel his target grades are too low or too high please speak to your son's Head of Line. May I remind you that if you wish to receive an up to date grade card at any point during the term please contact your son's Head of Line.

There will be some changes to Maths sets in Figures after half term as we are reverting back to eight teaching groups for the remainder of the year.

A Level Examinations and arrangements after half term

After half term Rhetoric pupils are only expected in school for support sessions arranged by teachers and for the A Level examinations themselves. The boys already have their examination timetables and the overall timetable will be available on the College website after half-term. We wish all of the boys well in their forthcoming examinations and they are in our prayers.

Year 11 - GCSE Examinations

After half term Syntax pupils will only be required to attend school for their actual examinations and for any exam preparation sessions that are taking place prior to the exam. A timetable of sessions and examinations is available on the Syntax page of the College website. As you are well aware the boys have already completed two busy weeks of exams. Their approach so far has been outstanding and I hope that over half term they manage to take a small break while also preparing for the examinations to come. I am sure that you will continue to support your sons with their exam preparation and revision during the remainder of their examinations. We continue to wish all of the boys sitting their GCSEs well and they are also in our prayers.

End of Year exams [Years 7-10]

Details of the exams [including dates, timetables and revision guides] can be found on the relevant year pages of the school website. It is important that the boys get into good habits preparing for exams and this includes revising well in advance of the exams. They should be using this week to start their revision and by the time that they get to exam week they should really only be going over their revision notes. Please talk to your sons about this and encourage them to plan a revision timetable in the build up to their exam week.

Grammar pupils have their examinations in the week 18 - 22 June.

Lower Line pupils have their examinations from 25 June - 6 July.

Friends of Wimbledon College - Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Friends of Wimbledon College (FOWC) will take place on Tuesday 3 July at 7.30pm in the College. The FOWC plays a vital part in the school community and all parents and staff are invited to attend the AGM. This is your chance to hear how the funds you have helped to raise have been used. The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the chair, treasurer and secretary of the FOWC. Nominations should be sent in advance of the AGM for anyone wishing to stand for office, including existing office holders willing to stand for re-election. Nominations will also be accepted at the AGM.

I would like to encourage you to take an active part in FOWC. The College benefits greatly from the support that we receive from the Friends throughout the year. They are present at our events throughout the year providing refreshments; they manage our second hand uniform sales and raise money for the College through a number of social events. Given the size of the College the number of parents involved is very small and FOWC need your support. You may not be able to make a regular commitment but if you can give your time once or twice a year at our events then that would help them and the College. Please do consider how you are able to support the Friends and if possible attend their AGM on the 3 July.

Junior Maths Challenge

As you may already be aware our boys have once again achieved outstanding results in this year's Junior Maths Challenge with a record number of 87 Figures and Rudiments pupils achieving either a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate.

Huge congratulations must go to Jaime Medrano (Y8) who is one of about 1200 students nationally to be selected to compete in the Junior Mathematics Olympiad. Our last Olympiad entrant was back in 2015.

Special mention must also be made of William Davies and Jonathan Millar (Y8) who have been selected to sit the Kangaroo paper. Both competitions will take place on Tuesday the 12th of June. We wish them the best of luck.

As well as Jaime, William and Jonathan are other Gold Certificate winners were Tonny Andinomunoz, Sean Cannell and Conor Byrne (Y8). There were also 28 Silver and 53 Bronze certificates awarded.

Drama Production – Bugsy Malone!

The Drama and Music Department will be putting on a production of Bugsy Malone at Christmas. **Boys who are currently in Figures, Rudiments and Lower Grammar are invited to audition**, and the auditions will take place on Thursday 14th May from 3.10 in Drama 1. Bugsy Malone is a funny and exciting musical set in 1930's New York with lots of different and fun parts, so boys can act or sing or dance or all three, be a musician for us, or get involved in stage crew. Please see Miss O'Brien or Mr Thomas for more details.

Summer Concert – 10th July 2018

A date for your diaries! Our summer concert will take place on Tuesday 10th of July at 6pm in the College hall. It will be a concert of British music with a variety of performances from our orchestra and our choirs as well as from a number of other ensembles including our brass ensemble, our strings ensemble and rock bands. Refreshments will be available before the performance, courtesy of the Friends of Wimbledon College, and it should be a very enjoyable evening.

School Uniform

As you know we expect very high standards of the boys uniform and I am very much aware that the vast majority of our boys are always smart and a credit to both the school and yourselves. May I ask you to remind your son[s] of our expectations, particularly with the arrival of warmer weather. The boys are to wear their blazers at all times unless otherwise directed by a member of staff. Similarly top buttons should be done up and ties should be worn so that seven gold stripes are visible below the knot of the tie [for pupils with the Anniversary tie, one full stripe must be visible between the crest and the tie knot].

Shoes

As is always the case at this time of year a number of boys have been coming to school in unacceptable footwear because their school shoes have either broken or are now too small. They have all stated that they will be buying new shoes over the half term. I also appreciate that many of you will be buying new shoes during the next half term or for September. May I remind you that boys' shoes must comply with the school rules, which can be found on the College website. Trainers, casual shoes and trainer shoes are not allowed.

I would like to emphasise that if your son comes to school with incorrect shoes you will be asked to replace them immediately.

Hair

We continue to deal with a number of boys who have had extreme hairstyles that go against the College's uniform expectations, including having parts of their head shaved and lines

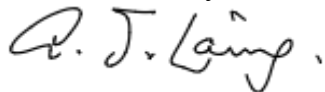
shaved into their hair. The most recent style that is not in line with our expectations is a skin fade, where the boys have the sides and back of their heads completely shaved. This style is not acceptable.

Facial hair

Boys in all year groups are expected to come to school clean shaven. I would be grateful to you as parents if you would ensure that your son is clean shaven and that he shaves regularly [as needed]. It is not acceptable for them to come to school in need of a shave stating that they had a shave last week. Boys in Poetry have been informed that they will be sent home to shave if necessary.

I am sure that you will cooperate with us in these matters and that you will ensure that your son comes to school in correct uniform at all times.

Yours sincerely



Adrian Laing
Head Master