



**Wimbledon
College**

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Headteacher's End of Year Letter to Parents

Tuesday 25 July 2023

Dear Parents

This year has been a busy one and a successful one in many ways. As you are aware we received positive outcomes from our two external inspections. In March our Ofsted Inspection identified us as continuing to be a good school, with many strengths and our Diocesan Inspection, last December, found us to be an outstanding Catholic school. Importantly we continue to provide a breadth of opportunities for our pupils within the academic curriculum and our extensive extra-curricular offer.

We marked the end of our academic year with two days of House activities and with our traditional Masses of St Ignatius. The masses were celebrated by Fr Michael Barnes SJ and Fr Michael Holman SJ, both of whom are former pupils of Wimbledon College. We were also very fortunate to have a number of Jesuits in Formation, including Dr Taylor SJ, with us during the last week of term. They spent time visiting classes, leading a retreat for a group of pupils and provided a powerful reflection on the life of St Ignatius, combined with their own journeys as Jesuits, at our final masses. We wish them all well in their continued studies and in particular Peter O'Sullivan SJ who is being ordained a priest this Saturday.



The term ended with a lot of preparatory work being undertaken by our contractors. Scaffolding is in the process of being erected both inside and over the swimming pool in preparation for the new roof and heavy construction vehicles were also busy preparing the way for our 3G pitch to be installed on the College field. [The picture above was taken from



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my office last week]. Both projects will continue into the Autumn term and will inevitably impact the PE and Games department during this time. All other areas of the College will continue as normal.

Staff leaving

We say farewell to a number of staff leaving us at the end of the year. Our two longest serving members of staff have 49 years' service between them.

Mrs Millington has been an integral part of our Finance Office for 25 years. She was also key to the ongoing success of our Saturday Music School, managing the Saturdays themselves as well as supporting our Directors of Music behind the scenes. We wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Mrs Walters is moving to a new post in September having taught at the College for 24 years. As well as being a History teacher, as most pupils will now know her, she has in her time here also been the Subject leader for Classics and a Head of Line as well as supporting the production of College musicals. We also wish her well in her new role.

Other staff leaving the College this summer are

Mrs Caffrey [SEN teacher], Mr Campbell [LSA], Mrs Downes [PSA], Mrs Given [LSA], Ms Jones [Mathematics teacher], Ms Larsen [LSA], Mrs Lawlor [Headteacher's Secretary and HR], Mr Marchant [English teacher], Mr Richardson [LSA], Mr Sadiq [Science teacher], Ms Scott [Science Technician], Mr Taylor SJ [English teacher], Ms Wilson [D&T and PE teacher], Mr Kozlowski [Site Staff]

We also bid farewell to PC Hayward [Safer Schools Officer] who is leaving us to take on another role within the Metropolitan Police. He has committed himself fully to the College in his time with us, developing positive relationships with pupils and staff. Amongst other things he has helped with rugby, football and cricket teams and worked with Mr Potter in setting up the bike maintenance group.

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.

Ms Waters - Headteacher at The Ursuline High School, Wimbledon

I also want to acknowledge that Ms Waters, Headteacher of The Ursuline High School is retiring after 19 years of headship at the Ursuline. She was Deputy Head prior to her appointment as Headteacher. She has worked tirelessly and with tremendous commitment for the benefit and education of all pupils at the Ursuline and at other local Catholic schools. I want to take this opportunity to thank her for everything that she has done through her work with the College over this time. She has been a member of our Governing Body and on a



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personal note she was a great support to me when I started as Headteacher. We wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Reports and Jesuit Pupil Profile Certificates for Years 7-10

Parents of pupils in Years 7-10 will have received their child's end of Gradecard, with attainment and effort grades, along with their JPP Report that includes their child's tutor report. If you have not received your child's Gradecard or report then please email your child's PSA.

Parent Information Evenings – September 2023

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:

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------|--------|
| 07/09/2023 | Y11 Parents' Briefing | 6.00pm |
| 07/09/2023 | Y12 Parents' Briefing | 6.30pm |
| 11/09/2023 | Y7 Parents' Briefing | 6.00pm |
| 12/09/2023 | Y8 Parents' Briefing | 6.00pm |
| 12/09/2023 | Y13 Parents' Briefing | 6.30pm |
| 13/09/2023 | Y9 Parents' Briefing | 6.00pm |
| 13/09/2023 | Y10 Parents' Briefing | 6.30pm |

Examination results days

Key dates:

A Level and Sixth Form vocational results are available from school on **Thursday 17 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 24 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 24 August they will be able to complete their online enrolment form on Applicaa. They will be able to do this in school, from 8.45am, [computer rooms will be available].

Further details of the induction process have been sent out to parents and pupils. 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 children come to school with the correct uniform and with an appropriate hair style.

If you are finding it difficult, for financial reasons, to purchase any item of school uniform for your child then please contact your child's PSA and we will do what we can to support you.

Changes to school coats

I want to bring to your attention the new school uniform rules that come into effect from 1 September 2023 regarding pupils' overcoats.

They are as follows:

Pupils in Years 7-11 may wear a plain black overcoat without a logo.

All coats must have sleeves.

Coats may have a hood.

Hoods are not to be worn when on the school site.

This means that we are allowing pupils in Years 7-11 to wear plain black coats with hoods from September. Pupils in Lower Line no longer have to wear the College reversible jacket. They can continue to wear the College jacket if they wish to do so.

Shoes

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 Transition to the College page of the Parents section] for the relevant information about what shoes are acceptable. I must emphasise that we insist on *black, leather, plain, formal and polished shoes*. I must also point out that our list of unacceptable brands [to be found in our 'a Guide for New Parents' on the Transition to the College page of the College website] is not exhaustive. They are simply given as examples.

I must emphasise that trainers or shoes that have the appearance of trainers are not acceptable and parents will be expected change unacceptable shoes. I really do urge you to ensure that you buy the correct style of shoe to avoid any unnecessary expense, if you have to buy a second pair of shoes.



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Rugby

Pre-season training

Mr Hallett has asked me to remind you that our major sport for the Autumn term is rugby. We have a full series of fixtures for all year groups and it is important that all players are properly prepared for the season. This commences on Saturday 9 September for all teams except our U12s [Figures].

Pre-season details are below but as always, they will be during the last week of the Summer holiday. Please encourage your child(ren) to attend as this give the coaches and players a valuable opportunity to meet and prepare for the season ahead.

Participation is strongly encouraged however please do not worry if your child is not able to make this session.



The poster features a green background with a white and green rugby ball on the left. The text 'WIMBLEDON COLLEGE Pre-season Rugby 2023 – 24 SEASON' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title is a table with a yellow header. To the left of the table, it says 'ALL PUPILS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND' and 'Please arrive 15mins before the start of the session'. The table lists the year groups, dates, times, activities, and venues for the pre-season training sessions.

| YEAR GROUP | DATE | TIME | ACTIVITY | VENUE |
|------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 8 | 29 th August | 10.00 – 11.30 | Pre-season Training | Coombe Lane |
| 9 | 30 th August | 10.00 – 11.30 | Pre-season Training | Coombe Lane |
| 10 | 31 st 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 & 1 st September | 10.00 – 12.00 15.30 – 17.00 | Pre-season Training | Coombe Lane |

With the exciting construction developments at school our after-school training schedule will have to adjust until the new facility is complete. All training sessions will be a continuation of the year group's (or Population 1 for Rudiments and Lower Grammar) Games session based at Coombe lane. Those in Population 2 will be able to get a lift down to training in the minibuses at the end of school.

Please note that training is compulsory for those wishing to play and represent the school.



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RUGBY TRAINING NIGHTS

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER



ALL
PUPILS ARE
WELCOME
TO ATTEND



| DAY | AGE GROUP | TIME | COACHES/STAFF | VENUE |
|-----------|--|---------------------------------|--|---|
| MONDAY | U14s | 3.30 – 5.00 | Mr Stock, Mr O'Connor, Mr Milloy | COOMBE LANE After Games for Pop 1 Minibuses to transfer Pop2 pupils |
| TUESDAY | U13s | 3.30 – 5.00 | Mr West, Mr Van Der Hoeven, Mr Fitcher | COOMBE LANE After Games for Pop 1 Minibuses to transfer Pop2 pupils |
| WEDNESDAY | SENIORS & U16s | 3.15 – 5.00 3.15 – 4.30 | Mr Hallett, Mr Hillhouse, Mr Doran, Mr Blowes, Mr Shepherd, Mr Cornwell | COOMBE LANE |
| THURSDAY | U15s | 3.15 – 4.30 | Mr Bracken, Mr Soalla-Bell, Mr Skinner & Mr Causton | COOMBE LANE |
| FRIDAY | 1 ST & 2 ND XV U12s | 3.30 – 4.30 & 3.15 – 4.30 | Mr Hallett, Mr Hillhouse & Mr Doran Mr Simon, Mr La Porta, Mr Hoban, Mr Potter, Mr Thomas | COOMBE LANE |

Match day teas

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].

Start of Autumn Term

May I remind you that all pupils return to school on Tuesday 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



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