



# Wimbledon College

## Headteacher's Half Term Letter to Parents

Thursday 29 May 2025

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families have been able to enjoy the half term break. I also hope that all of our pupils revising for their GCSEs and A Levels have been able to take some time to rest in preparation for their examinations after the half term break. I would like to wish all pupils taking public exams over the next few weeks all the very best.

We are continuing to provide pupils with support sessions and with access to revision materials. Revision materials have been made available to pupils via Google Classroom.

Last half term was a short one however as always there was a lot going on. Public examinations have started slightly earlier this year both at GCSE and A Level. We welcomed pupils from La Caousou, in Toulouse, on their return visit as part of our regular exchange and our own pupils have visited Barcelona. At the recent DofE Awards ceremony Wimbledon College was recognised as having the highest completion rate at Bronze Level last year across schools in Merton. Both pupils and Mr O'Connor, our DofE coordinator are to be congratulated on this award. It was also pleasing to see our current cohort of over 50 Grammar pupils successfully complete their DofE Bronze expedition before half term. Finally, we held our KS4 Curriculum Evening for Lower Grammar pupils as they make their decisions regarding their courses for next year.

### Report Card

Pupils in Years 7 -10 and 12 received [electronically] their report cards during the half term break. Pupils in Years 7-9 have been given a progress judgement for the work completed since the start of the Summer term. Years 10 and 12 report cards have their latest summative assessment grade. Please do take the time to look over your child's card and if you, or your child, are concerned about their progress compared to their target grade please do not hesitate to speak to your child's Head of Line.

### School Uniform expectations

Thank you to all parents who have ensured that your children are wearing the correct school uniform, not only in school but on their way to and from school. There are however a number of pupils who are wearing incorrect uniform and shoes. I ask that you ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform. This includes formal black shoes.

Some pupils have also been wearing their coat instead of their blazer. This is not allowed and if they are found to be doing so their coat will be confiscated. Coats can be worn over their blazer if there is need to do so however I believe that it will be warm enough during the coming half term that this will not be necessary.

### **Use of the College's 3g pitch – correct footwear**

I must remind parents that all pupils are expected to wear the correct footwear when using the 3G pitch at the College. What this means is that pupils must wear boots with the correct studs and not trainers. I appreciate that the pupils are participating in summer sports however for their safety and to avoid unnecessary wear of the playing surface the correct footwear must be worn.

Pupils were using the correct footwear earlier in the year and must do so after half term. Failure to have the correct footwear will mean that they will not be able to take part in activities on the pitch.

I ask that you support the school with these issues and ensure that your child is wearing their uniform correctly. Please check the School Uniform List [available on the College website] before buying any school uniform. Please also note the details of the Second-Hand Uniform sale being held by the Friends of Wimbledon College [see below].

### **Travelling to and from school**

Unfortunately, we were made aware of a number of incidents towards the end of the last half term where our pupils were not behaving appropriately in Wimbledon Town Centre. It is an expectation on our pupils that they simply travel through the town centre on their way to and from school and do not hang around in Wimbledon. The area gets extremely busy with pupils from many schools being present.

The vast majority of our pupils do set a positive example through their behaviour and we receive positive feedback from members of the public. There are however a small number of pupils who have not maintained these high standards.

I ask that all parents support the school by talking to your child[ren] about their behaviour on their journeys to and from school.

### **Drama**

The Drama Department is very proud of our GCSE Drama and Performing Arts candidates, who have presented a range of impressive examination performances this year—from devised community projects to individual pitches and monologues. We wish them the very best for the rest of their summer exams. Meanwhile, our First Stage Drama Club is beginning an exciting new collaboration with Merton Arts Share, inspired by the *Stories from our Streets* photographic exhibition at Canons House in Mitcham. We are still welcoming pupils from Years 7 and 8 to join the project, which will involve creative writing, photography, and performance—so please do encourage your child to get involved.

## **Rugby**

### *Preseason training*

Next September will see a return of Rugby as our major sport. In order to prepare for these fixtures, as in previous years, there will be pre-season sessions running through the last week of the summer holidays [26-29 August]. Further details with exact days will be sent out in due course but every age group will have training sessions during the week.

These sessions are not compulsory but it does greatly benefit the teams' cohesion and give them a chance to meet their new coaches, providing your child with an opportunity to demonstrate their talents in preparation for the start of the season. Please make every effort to attend.

### *Mouthguards*

We as a sports department do everything possible to ensure the welfare of those in our care is of the highest standard possible. That is why we are pleased to once again be able to offer all students at Wimbledon College the opportunity to purchase a personalised College mouthguard from the world's leading manufacturer, OPRO. By using the promo code **Wimbledon10** you'll also receive a 10% discount across all purchases.

To order mouthguard please use the following the link; <https://opro.info/WimbledonCollege>

There are other options/manufacturers available but please remember that having a mouthguard is a compulsory item of equipment for all those taking part in Rugby.

### **Next half term - Dates**

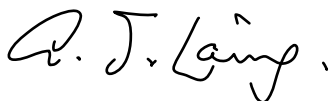
Just to remind all parents that school reopens on Monday 2 June.

On Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, we are pleased to welcome Fr Jose Mesa SJ [Secretary for Education for the Society of Jesus] to the College. He will be spending the morning with us; meeting pupils and staff and he will also be celebrating Mass with Year 8 Pupils.

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June we have an early finish for all pupils at 2.15pm. This will be followed by a whole staff training session.

With best wishes,

God bless



Adrian Laing  
Headteacher