

31st March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: End of Half-Term Update

As we approach the end of what has been an incredibly busy spring term, I want to thank parents for their continued support. Whilst this term seems to have flown by, we have had a number of exciting events taking place including during the last week and half. We have had our whole-school Culture Day, Comic Relief, Anti-Bullying workshops and Year 7 Life Skills projects in partnership with Barclays, which many of our students have participated in.

A number of other important messages for Parents/Carers are:

Year 11 Half-Term Interventions

We will be running Year 11 Intervention sessions throughout the Easter holidays. There are a number of subjects running sessions, and students involved in those have been told directly. It is strongly recommended that students attend these important sessions as we enter the last few weeks before examinations. We will also be revising our before school and after school intervention sessions and will be sharing this with students and parents/carers in the first week back after the Easter break.

Attendance

Attendance remains a concern for us and this is a plea to parents. Please ensure your child comes to school every day, on time and ready to learn. Every day missed, results in missed learning and we would like your children to receive their education each day. Please can I ask for your support with ensuring your child attends school every day.

We are receiving a high volume of requests for leave during term time. We will not authorise any leave during term-time for holidays, visits to family abroad or other similar requests and these absences will be marked as unauthorised. It is crucial that you plan visits abroad and holidays during the school holidays and not during term time.

I have met with and spoken to a number of parents during my first term as Principal at Waverley School, and listened to many of the recommendations for improvements parents have made. With this in mind, I am delighted to share the following updates with parents:

Multi-Faith Room

From the summer term onwards, there will be a multi-faith room for students to use during unstructured time (break time, lunchtime and afterschool). This room can be utilised by students for quiet reflection, reading prayers and is a place where students of any religion or faith can use. The multi-faith room is a beautiful space that has been renovated and deep cleaned and is located on the Transition corridor. Some of our Year 11 students (along with Mr Amin) have taken responsibility for looking after the room and ensuring it is used appropriately by all students. Please look out for some photographs in our next Trust Newsletter. May I remind parents that students will only be provided

supervised access during break time, lunch time and afterschool and prayers can only be read at this time, not during lesson time. Thank you for your support on this.

Phone System

A number of parents have raised concerns in relation to our phone system. I am pleased to share with you that we have recently upgraded our phone system and now in the process of having a call waiting system installed that allows callers to be placed in a queue to reception. This should improve the experience of calling our reception and ensure your query is dealt with more efficiently. We have also refined the number of options there are when you call so please listen carefully to those and ensure you select the correct number. We hope this investment in a new structure will make calling our reception an even more positive experience and we appreciate your patience whilst this system is installed.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish all of our students/staff/parents and carers a restful two-week break and for those families participating in the holy month of Ramadan, we wish you a peaceful and blessed time. **We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 17th April 2023 at the usual time for the start of the summer term.**

Kind regards,

M. Hire

Mr M Hire
Principal (Secondary and Sixth Form)