



Monday 4 November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Fundraising Day for THRIVE – Thursday 24 October 2019

Once again we have been thrilled by the response of students to the first of our four planned fundraising days for local charities. We shall be sending off a cheque for £1000 to [THRIVE](#) with our best wishes and admiration for all that they do in this community. Our next fundraising day will take place on the last day of this term – Thursday 19 December 2019. We shall be raising money for [Katharine House Hospice](#) and raising awareness of this organisation through the Student Council, active tutorials and assemblies. Meanwhile, the new Student Council have committed themselves to trying to collect 140 Christmas parcels for [Aspire](#), building on last year's successful collection of 120 shoe boxes for homeless adults and children across Oxfordshire.



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 7 November 2019

Later this week we look forward to welcoming students and families from CNS and elsewhere to our Sixth Form Open Evening. We shall begin with a presentation in the Main Hall from 6pm, followed by a tour of the emerging new Sixth Form Centre – and then on to conversations with the teachers offering courses next year. We look forward to seeing as many families as possible.

Sixth Form Centre – Under Construction

So far, so good, as far as the new centre is concerned. Work is progressing really well and, touch wood, is on course to be completed and ready to be opened in January 2020.



The work on the new toilets and kitchenette is now underway and will present some of the greatest difficulties but this has not stopped us working with groups of keen students to begin choosing appropriate furniture that is bright, functional and comfortable. Plus a few eye-catching wall visuals to create a truly inspiring environment for our students to learn.



Once in place, we hope the sixth formers will look at ways to fundraise to purchase some garden furniture and make full use of their new sun garden as well.

Year 10 PTC – New On-Line Booking System to be Trialled

On Thursday 21 November we shall be hosting the Year 10 Parent Teacher Consultation (PTC) evening. For the first time this will be bookable online from 6am on Thursday 7 November. If you are a parent or carer of a Year 10 student, you will receive a letter about this very shortly. This will provide all the information you need to make those bookings and we are on the end of the phone if you have any difficulties whatsoever.

You may recall that I sought parents' and carers' opinions on our PTCs last year. Your views have led to this trial and some other adjustments. This includes spacing ourselves out a little more on the night. In all future PTCs you will meet the teachers of English, Maths and Science in the Main Hall, but meetings with all other subjects will be in one of the nearby English classrooms. We also hope to provide succinct and valuable comments to you that maintain the 5-minute appointment slots and avoid overrunning which is as frustrating for teachers as it is for you.

If the online booking trial goes well, then we shall use the system for all PTCs *from 2020*, starting with the Year 11 PTC on Thursday 23 January. I shall keep you posted on how the trial goes.

Assessment and Reporting to Parents

During the course of this week, teachers will be entering a variety of grades regarding each student's progress and attitude to learning into our database. These will of course generate reports to you as parents. During the course of this year we shall be reviewing our assessment and reporting policy and we wish to engage families in this process.

In the next few weeks please look out for a letter for Mr Trainer, Deputy Headteacher. He will be seeking some initial feedback on a range of issues relating to assessment, target setting and reporting and this will be the start of a journey that will culminate in tweaks, amendments or changes to our current policy and practices in 2020/21. We are keen to not do away with things that clearly work and add value, but we do want to ensure that what we generate and provide is deemed useful by parents, carers and students.

Rewards and Celebration Events



This year we shall be relaunching our celebration events with awards presented at special extended assemblies at the end of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. Prizes will be distributed for a range of achievements - some academic but mostly in relation to character; where students have shown compassion, courage, creativity or curiosity.



Personal Scorecard for Annie Student		October 2019 (Report 1 of 4 for 2019/20)		Form and Tutor: 90X – Mrs Amy Tutor		
Annie's Attendance		100%	Average Year 9 Attendance	96.4%	Average School Attendance	95.4%
<small>In order for all students to be the best they can be, we strongly encourage all students to work hard in class and at home. Being at school and on time for school and lessons is essential, and this goes hand in hand with all lessons every day. Uniform and appearance is important and is a reflection of our community and belonging. The table below summarises how well Annie has achieved in these five important areas.</small>						
Measure	Gold (50 points)	Silver (30 points)	Bronze (10 points)	Ungraded (0 points)		
Attitude to Learning	Five or more Grade 1s.	Seven or more Grade 2 and 3s.	Four or more Grade 2s or 3s.		It is important that all students possess a strong attitude to learning to maximise success.	
Attendance	No absence since the last assessment.	One day of absence since the last assessment.	Two days of absence since the last assessment.		It is important that all students arrive at school as early as possible.	
Punctuality	No lateness to school or lessons since the last assessment.	No lateness to school and no more than one instance to lessons.	Two instances since the last assessment.		It is important that all students are ready, safe and respectful at all times.	
Behaviour	No detentions since the last assessment.	One detentions since the last assessment.	Two detentions since the last assessment.		It is important that all students are ready, safe and respectful at all times.	
Uniform	Always perfect and no yellow slips.	Usually perfect and less than two yellow slips.	Often perfect and less than three yellow slips.		It is important that all students wear their uniform well prior to all times.	
Annie's Score	35/50	Annie's Award	Silver	Average Year 9 Score	33/50	

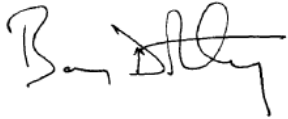
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Friday 13 th December	Monday 16 th December	Tuesday 17 th December	Wednesday 18 th December
All events will take place in the Main Hall between 8:45am and 9:20am			

Awards will be presented by Tutors, Heads of Year and members of the Leadership Team. The planned dates of these assemblies appear above and parents and carers are very welcome to join us for these special occasions. Students in KS3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) will also be receiving the new Personal Scorecards that will revise and celebrate a range of ways in which they have achieved at the school so far this year.

Attendance Matters

And finally, we welcome all of our students back for the second term of the year. We look forward to a continuation of an upward trend with regards to behaviour and engagement in and out of lessons. However, we do expect and hope that attendance sharply improves. Compared to the previous year, attendance in our first eight weeks was only satisfactory and we know that lots of children suffered from colds and bugs. Let's hope those bugs are largely behind us and that we can report on an upward trend for attendance later this term as well.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Doherty', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Barry Doherty,
Headteacher