

10 July 2019

Dear Parents,

As we break out for summer we reflect on the academic year that has passed us by.

Rather than reiterating all our successes I believe it is a healthy option to review the Newsletters that we have published over the year. I am sure you will agree that when we do this, we feel assured that our Sixth Form is truly outstanding.

Work Experience

The week that has passed has seen our Year 12 out in the world of work. From law firms to laboratories and film sets to social media outlets or the building sites of our property giants to the medical, theatrical and academic world all the professional genres have been covered. Our thanks and appreciation goes to Dr McNamara who has organised this programme.

Duke of Edinburgh

In the most pleasant weather our Gold DoE students undertook their expedition. The account of their endeavours highlights how such an expedition requires such planning and fortitude. Our thanks to Major Ridley and his team for ensuring that the expedition took place. Molly R has written this report:

Last week we took part in our Gold Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) Expedition in Snowdonia, Wales. After checking our equipment we set off on Sunday to a thankfully clear and sunny Wales to enjoy four days of walking and camping.

The first day was difficult as we faced massive hills and extensive walks combined with heavy bags and sore feet but nonetheless we kept happy as we started our journey. Navigating forests was a difficult task which our group powered through enthusiastically. Upon arrival at the reservoir we set up camp and spent our time cooking and skimming rocks on the water.

The next morning we began our walk and by 12 o'clock we had already scaled 3 Peaks with still more to come. After a hard day walking uphill we reached our destination and were greeted by another group who had been waiting to see us. After making dinner we collapsed into our tents and slept through the night.

Following a difficult two days, our third day was definitely the most enjoyable, the sun shone down on us all day giving us lovely tan lines and red faces. It was hard work but we all enjoyed and benefitted from the team spirit that we had developed with it pulling each of us through any difficult moments we had.

We woke up on our final day on Thursday exhausted but happy to be heading home later on in the day. We began early in hopes of finishing earlier than expected and we walked that little bit quicker to get back to our own beds at home.

Throughout our journey we saw huge mountains, wild horses and the best views of Wales we have ever witnessed. Once we finally arrived at our pick up point we relaxed into the seats of our lift home and slept until we returned to school.

Being Gold DoE, we had to rely on ourselves and each other to help get us through the four days of wild camping. Although it was one of the hardest things we have ever done in our lives, it was definitely worth it!

Celebration Assembly

This morning I was delighted to award Waterstones vouchers to our Year 12 high achievers.

Faye H – Politics
Eve W – History
Arel A – Mathematics
Sean O – Further Mathematics
Mollie D – Biology
Linda P – Physics
Cedar P-C – Classical Civilisation
Sam Q – English Literature and Media
Jojo S – English Language
Elasakia G – Chemistry
Munder B – Economics
Zach N – Business Studies
Molly Reddin - Spanish
Michael Colvin - DT

In addition we thanked the tireless efforts of the Year 12 House Mentors. Mr Barnicoat, Dr Atkins, Dr McNamara, Mr Leeder, Mr McAlea, Miss Gimeno and Mrs Hayes our Sixth Form Manager.

Goodbye

Today we said goodbye to Miss Ellie Jones who has been a fantastic colleague, providing superb careers advice, counselling and friendship to many of our Sixth Form over the past three years. Ellie has been a great stalwart of the Sixth Form team and I thank her for her tireless industry.



Summer Work

We do hope that you will all enjoy rest and recuperation over the summer. It would be foolish not to advise our young men and women to embark on some sort of graft.

UCAS

Mr Leeder and I expect draft Personal Statements evident in the first week of term.

Subjects

Topics and areas of concerns should be addressed in preparation for tests in September to redress predicted grades.

University Visits

Students should visit as many Universities as you can over the summer. I realise Faculties will be closed, however the city or town that you visit will give an insight into what life is like there and whether it is an area that your son or daughter could foresee their future.

EPQ

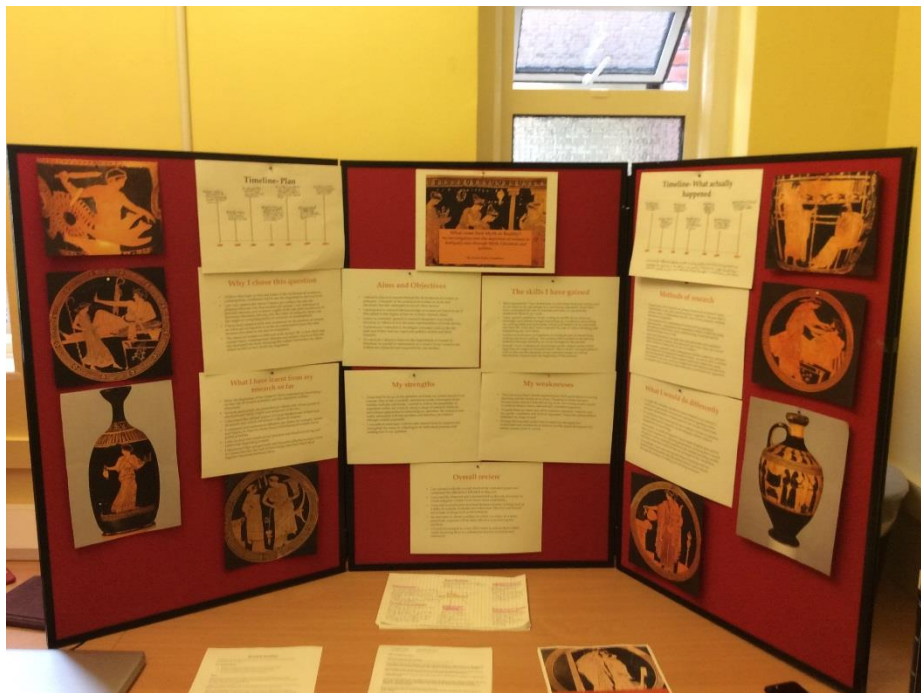
Alterations and log books completed.

Extended Project Qualification: Presentations

On Tuesday, the EPQ Mentors visited their students and viewed presentations of their last draft, enabling students to have the summer to add or alter elements of their project. The College Foundation Governors and selected students from throughout the school were also invited to view the displays and projects.







PTA

We have now completed the planting and the Year 12 have enjoyed the new garden furniture as supplied by the PTA. Our sincerest thanks to their generosity



There is no such thing as I in team and in our Celebration Assembly it was a joy to thank our colleagues for all their hard work and support. Our Deputy Heads, Mr Leeder, Dr McNamara and our Sixth Form Manager Mrs Hayes. In addition, our Sixth Form tutors have been fantastic in their support for the Sixth Form.

Thank you for all your support and kindness over the year.

I hope you and your family have a safe and joyous holiday.

Kind regards,

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form