

27th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Ramadan

I would like to share my very best wishes to all members of our community that are observing Ramadan at the current time and I wish you all the very best for the forthcoming Eid-al-Fitr.

Strike action by the National Education Union (NEU)

The teaching unions and government have finally entered negotiations with each other. Hopefully there will be positive news soon that brings recent disruption to a close.

Feedback

We always welcome feedback so we know what we are doing well and how we can improve further. The best way to do this is through the dedicated parent view website. If you follow this link or type parentview.ofsted.gov.uk into google etc you will come to the page to register and leave your comments. This will hopefully reinforce the very positive survey that was conducted in September. [Welcome to Ofsted Parent View | Ofsted Parent View](#)

Year 9 Parents Evening and Key Stage Four Pathways

A reminder that Our Year 9 Parents Evening is on Evening 30th March between 3.45 and end at 6.30pm. Our Year 9 students have now received assemblies, our booklet and other information on the subjects they wish to continue into Years 10 and 11. Please do discuss this with them at home. Our booklet is also on our website under the Curriculum Section. Parents can then discuss this with individual staff on parents evening and after Easter meet more specifically with senior staff should the need arise, culminating in student handing their pathways choices form in by Friday 21st April. We will write to all Year 9 parents separately on this.

Last Day of Term / Start of New Term

Friday 31st March is the last day of the Spring Term. The School will operate its customary compact day and will close at 1pm. The School will reopen to all students on Tuesday 18th April at the normal time.

Culture Day

I am very pleased to say the school raised £1,351 for the Earthquake Appeal in Turkey/Syria. Thank you to everyone that contributed and making this day so special.

Mock Trials

On Saturday 8th March a group of Year 8 Students competed in the regional heat of the Magistrates Court Mock Trial Competition at Reading Crown Court. The Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition is a practical and challenging way to educate young people about their legal rights and responsibilities, the criminal justice system, and the legal process and profession generally, while at the same time improving their public speaking skills.

World Book Day

We marked World Book Day 2023 on Friday 3rd March, by hosting two talented authors for Years 7 and 8. Desree, a local spoken word poet, ran six interactive sessions on the day, encouraging students to respond to her poems and to write their own. It is fair to say, that Year 8 thoroughly enjoyed the session and we hope to have Desree in again soon. Steve Tasane, ran six sessions for Year 7 and he was a blast! He had the students rapping, clapping and thoroughly enjoying WBD with a published author.

Ted Talk

Students from Years 9, 10 and 6th form made up over a hundred Wexham students who participated in a TED TALK from Karen Betts OBE for International Women's Day on Wednesday 8th March. They were inspired by Karen's varied career path from Lawyer, Counsellor to the British Embassy in Washington, Ambassador to Morocco and then Mauritania, Deputy Chief of the Joint Intelligence Committee and now the CEO of the Food & Drinks Federation; she talked about technology in the manufacturing processes used by the Food & Drinks companies she represents; students had the opportunity to ask a number of questions in the Q & A which followed and Karen raised the prospect of internships in the companies which form part of Federation.

STEM Week

As part of National STEM Week, which commenced on Monday 13th March there have been a number of activities planned during this month. Students from Wexham have been nominated for this national programme which will see them take part in the STEM ICT/Computing Masterclass initiative programme which commenced on Saturday 4th March. They will participate in STEM Workshops to include coding, meet Key Scientists and Industrialists, consider current trends and applications and the vocational careers that are on offer.

Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones can be brought to school in order to support student's safety on the way to and from school. However, they MUST NEVER disrupt a lesson and should never be seen in lessons. Mobile phones can be used sensibly at break and lunchtimes, BUT NOT between lessons. HEADPHONES cannot be used in school and therefore should not be seen. This is for Health and Safety reasons. Mobile phones and headphones will be confiscated if the above is not followed and a parent/carer will need to collect them from reception, no exception.

School Uniform

Our students continue to have very smart uniform, thank you. If parents are facing genuine difficulties, please do contact your child's Leader of Year and we may be able to offer support. I would also be interested in old/outgrown useable blazers, jumpers and sports kits to be donated back to the school so we reuse them where we can.

As you may be aware Diffusion, one of our suppliers, has ceased trading. I was aware that they were having to move out of the Queensmere Shopping Centre, but they only very recently informed me they were closing altogether. This means our sole supplier is now School Days Direct. We shall try and source a second supplier, but this does take time to organise.

School Days Direct Ltd
20A Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4QA
Telephone 01628 665353
Website – www.schooldaysdirect.co.uk

Yours faithfully



Mr Lawrence Smith
Headteacher

Term and Important Dates 2022 – 2023

Spring Term	Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th February 2023	Half Term Holiday
	Thursday 30 th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening 4-7pm <u>Change to advertised day</u>
	Friday 31 st March 2023	Last Day of Term. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm.
	Monday 3 rd April to Friday 14 th April 2023	Easter Holiday
Summer Term	Monday 17 th April 2023	Staff ONLY Day - INSET
	Tuesday 18 th April 2023	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.
	Thursday 27 th April 2023	Year 7 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
	Monday 1 st May 2023	School Closed for May Bank Holiday
	Monday 8 th May 2023	School Closed for Bank Holiday (King's Coronation)
	Friday 27 th May 2023	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
	Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June 2023	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 5 th June 2023	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.
	Friday 21 st July 2023	Last Day of Term for students. School will operate a compact day finishing at 1pm.