

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

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All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of a very busy and successful term there are a few important points to share with you. It has been my pleasure to showcase the school to a number of professionals outside of the Swale Academies Trust. They have approached us in order to observe our best practice first hand. Similarly, we are seeing increasing numbers wishing to come to Meopham School. Our students, your children, are fantastic ambassadors. Many of them have proudly shown prospective students and parents around the school, who report that they are deeply impressed with the performance, confidence, and maturity of our young people.

Year 11 Easter Revision classes

We have put in place a number of measures already to ensure all our year 11 students have the best possible chance of success in the Summer. We will be repeating our well attended and successful programme of Easter revision classes. Curriculum leaders have been identifying the students who would most benefit from attending. Letters have been sent to the parents of any student invited to one of these sessions. I look forward to hearing about their success. In the past, students have enjoyed the more relaxed and informal atmosphere of these revision classes which have, in turn, deepened their understanding and knowledge.

Year 11 Study Leave

Year 11 study leave will begin on Monday 15th June this year. Students will be invited in during that week to attend study workshops which will last for the whole day. All students will be expected to attend the Statistics study morning on Thursday 18th June, enabling them to be fully prepared for their exam which takes place during that afternoon. Students who take History will, in addition, be invited to attend a History workshop on Monday 15th June. The final History exam will take place on Tuesday 16th June.

As you will be aware, we have a lovely tradition here at Meopham where we hold a celebration for year 11s when the majority of their final exams have been sat. This year we would like to invite Year 11 to come in at the start of the school day on Friday 19th June 2015. We expect them to be in their full school uniform, with a spare shirt for signing. They will be with their form tutors during periods 1 and 2, followed by a "Leavers' Celebration" during period 3. Students studying Product Design will be collected from the Hall by Mr Webb to take part in a Product Design workshop ready for their exam on the following Monday, 22nd June. Students not taking Product Design will be required to leave the school site at the end of the celebration event at 11.30 a.m.

Uniform

The vast majority of students look incredibly smart in their uniforms, and are proud of their business-like appearance. As we move towards the summer months, I would like to remind parents about our expected standards of school uniform. For example, while skirts should be of a suitable length, they also should not be of Lycra or a similar stretchy material. As you are aware, trainers of any description are not acceptable school footwear. We would like to thank parents for their continued support in ensuring that students are wearing formal work shoes. Students are also expected to wear their blazers to and from school.

Attendance

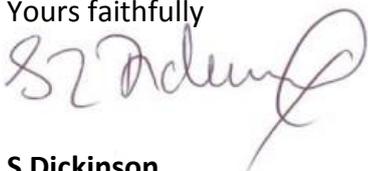
It has been pleasing to see improvements in overall attendance rates over the last few weeks. We have offered a number of incentives to reward good attendance such as a voucher prize drawn from all students who had a 100% attendance record for a week. Where an entire form has maintained a 100% attendance record we have allowed them a free non-uniform day at the end of the following week. I am pleased to report that our attendance figures are increasing when compared to this point in the term last year. Our attendance target of 96% is an ambitious one, but one I firmly believe we can achieve with your support.

Parent View – Ofsted Questionnaire

I would like to remind you of Parent view. Ofsted do make use of the online Parent View service to gather information from parents (<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>, or via the Meopham School Website Parent tab, Ofsted Parentview -external). It would be useful to us as we reflect on how far the school has come and also on what we wish to do to make it the outstanding school that our students and your children deserve.

I would finally like to wish all students, staff, parents and carers within the Meopham School community best wishes for a restful Easter break. Term 5 begins on Monday 20th April 2015.

Yours faithfully



S Dickinson
Headteacher