

14 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you again to update you on some information regarding Year 12 students (Year 13 from September).

Year 13 will return to school on Monday 6th September.

Parents' Evening

We recognise that this year has been challenging and, at times, uncertain for students and parents. We hope that things will look a little more 'normal' next year and this will include a Parents' Evening early in the Autumn Term (Thursday 14 October) to allow parents and students to have some helpful feedback early on. This week we ran a successful pilot with Year 7 using an online platform for Parents' Evening so we are confident that these will go ahead next year, be it in person or online.

ID Cards / Arriving to School

From September, at the start of the day students will be able to use any gate that is convenient for them and will register with their Form Tutor when they arrive in the morning as normal. If students are entering/leaving the school at any other time during the day, they need to use the Aneurin Way entrance. They should use their ID Cards to enter/exit via the pedestrian gate and sign in using one of the machines on site. **Students must keep their cards safe for use in Year 13.**

Attendance

During the Autumn Term, students may need to attend University Open Days / taster sessions. If this is the case, I would be grateful if you could let us know via email to Mrs Platt (jpt@olchfa.org.uk) so that we can record the absence correctly. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that, if a student is absent, a parent/carer should contact the school on each day of the absence (01792 534300 or by email to Mrs Platt). Students are reminded that attendance to all lessons (other than an authorised absence) is compulsory and good attendance is a requirement of remaining in the Sixth Form.

Uniform

Attached is a copy of the dress code policy for Olchfa Sixth Form and we ask for your support in helping to uphold and maintain the standards required. When students return we expect them to wear the correct Sixth Form dress code.

Uniform can be purchased using this link: <http://www.clothing-suppliers.co.uk/>

Head Boy / Girl Applications

This year we had a very strong field of applicants and we are incredibly proud of the talent that we have seen from the Year Group. The outcome of the process is as follows:

Head Girl: Eve Jones

Head Boy: Iwan White

Deputy Head Girls:

Abigail Basher, Maria Tuohy, Shriyana Logeswaran, Georgia Hole

Deputy Head Boys:

Dan Miller, Oliver White

Congratulations to you all!

Year 12 Student Success

I would like to congratulate Sam Humphries who has been selected to represent Wales in the Under 19 Hockey Squad. He recently played for the team on tour in Belfast.

Congratulations also go to Rha Arayal whose debut poetry collection 'Encapsulated Emotions' was published last week and is currently available on Amazon.

We love hearing about student achievement so please do get in touch if you know of any achievements that we can recognise.

Post Sixth Form / Future Pathways

Earlier this term, all Year 12 students attended a Future Pathways day where they were given Unifrog logins and were guided through sessions on building CVs, researching courses, applying for apprenticeships, completing a personal statement, enrolling on MOOCs and much more. We had very positive feedback from students and I hope that they found it useful. For students who aim to apply to university courses next year, I would recommend spending some time over the summer conducting research into courses/universities on Unifrog. You may also find it helpful to have a look through Unifrog with your son/daughter. The site also has a downloadable app for ease of access.

I have emailed a Google Form to students intending to apply for Early Application courses (Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry and/or Oxford, Cambridge). If this has not been completed yet, I would appreciate your support in encouraging your son/daughter to do this if they intend to apply to an Early Application course.

Finally, it's important for me to acknowledge that it has been a tiring year for all students and staff and I would like to thank you for your continued support. More so than ever before, I am looking forward to the fresh start that September will offer us. As I have already said, I hope that things will look a little more 'normal' and that we can offer the holistic care and support that we have always intended to. Have a wonderful summer and a restful break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Lent', written in a cursive style.

Miss R Lent
Learning Leader