



Thursday 30th March 2023

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER TO
PARENT(S)/ CARER(S)

Dear Parent(s)/ Carer(s)

It's been a busy few weeks since half-term and I would like to share a few highlights with you.

World Book Week experiences started on 20th February with a talk to Year 9 by Manjeet Mann, author of *The Crossing*, a book the pupils will be studying later this year. She was inspirational in her talk about how she became an author, how she writes and she read some extracts from both her published books.

A range of activities took place during the following week:

- On Friday 3rd March staff dressed up in a literary themed costume. In every lesson during the day, an extract from a short story was read to each class.
- Lou Abercrombie delivered workshops for Year 7 and 8 on Friday 27th February and Wednesday 1st March.

My thanks to Ms Moran and all the staff who took part in the events during the week,

STEM Week last week provided pupils with a number of opportunities to learn more about Science and Technology.

- Year 7 pupils experienced 'Zoo Lab' and had a fantastic opportunity to meet some unusual animals and learn about their habitats, symbiosis and adaptations.
- Year 8 pupils participated in a Science Show from Professor Hal (also a TV icon) from the University of Brighton. Professor Hal delivered a 15 – 20 minute lecture followed by series of exciting demonstrations, including blue liquid Oxygen!
- Year 9 enjoyed visiting Science Dome in our Main Hall. Pupils were able to explore Science, Geology and Geography in an interactive way. This was an unusual learning experience... a portable pop-up planetarium!

There were also a wide range of lunchtimes events and competitions put on by members of the Science Department. I would like to thank Mr Hakim for co-ordinating the week with Ms Constandi, and to all the members of staff who were involved.



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It is an important time of the year for many faith groups; our whole school assemblies last week have been about Ramadan and this week our assemblies will be about Easter. After the school holidays, we will hold assemblies about Vaisakhi.

As we enter the final week of term it is important that we use every minute of the time remaining of this term to focus on learning. In particular, Year 11 and Year 13 must capitalise on the last week and on the opportunities made available to them during the Easter break because the Public Examinations will be upon us shortly.

School will finish at 12.30pm for all students on 31st March with normal timetabled lessons taking place that morning as usual.

May I now bring other matters to your attention.

1. TERM DATES

This term finishes at lunchtime on Friday 31st March.

Next term starts for pupils on Tuesday 18th April 2023. The Summer term finishes on Friday 21st July 2023.

2. FORTHCOMING EXAMINATIONS

YEAR GROUP	EXAMINATIONS	DATES
7	End of year exams	Monday 15th May – Friday 19th May
8	End of year exams	Monday 22nd May – Friday 26th May
9	End of year exams	Monday 12th June – Friday 16th June
10	End of year exams	Tuesday 20th June – Wednesday 28th June
11	French Speaking	Monday 24th April – Monday 24th April
	Spanish Speaking	Tuesday 25th April – Wednesday 26th April
	GCSE Art / Photography	Tuesday 9th May – Friday 12th May
	GCSE PE Moderation Day	Thursday 20th April
	GCSE Drama Moderation	Thursday 20th April
	Practical Textiles Exam	Monday 9th May – Friday 12th May
	*GCSE Public Examinations	Monday 16th May – Wednesday 21st June *Contingency date Wednesday 28th June
12	Pre-Public Examinations	Tuesday 18th April – Friday 28th April
	Art & Photography	Monday 5th July – Wednesday 7th July
13	Art & Photography	Monday 15th May – Wednesday 17th May
	*Public Examinations	Wednesday 17th May – Friday 23rd June *Contingency date Wednesday 28th June

Please note:

Year 13 will remain in school until Monday 15th May and Year 11 will remain in school until Friday 26th May, they will continue to attend lessons when they do not have an examination.

3. PROGRESSION TO YEAR 13

For students to progress from Year 12 to Year 13 they must attain at least an 'E' grade in each of their subjects. If students receive a 'U' grade in the examinations in April, they will be offered a re-sit opportunity in June. If students attain another 'U' grade following the re-sit in June 2023, they will not be permitted to continue with the subject in which they have failed.

4. SAFEGUARDING

With the rise in knife crime Nationally and across London in recent years, we know that parents and carers will be concerned about how to keep young people safe. We share your concern, and work with the Metropolitan Police to educate young people about the risks of carrying a knife, and to report any concerns where the law has been broken. The School will not tolerate knives or any other weapons being brought into school.

I have attached a letter from the Metropolitan Police and Hounslow Education Partnership which contains important information and advice for parents. In school, we educate students about the dangers of knives both in PSHE and in assemblies. Where we have cause to suspect that a student is carrying a knife, we will also search a student following guidance in our Behaviour and Discipline Policy. It is exceptionally rare that students bring knives to school, but it is important to be clear that in all cases where a knife is brought to school the incident will be reported to the police and action taken under the Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

I wish everyone a safe and restful holiday.

Yours faithfully,

ACTING HEADTEACHER



J.M. Rose
Acting Headteacher