Dear Parent or Carer

Term 4 is often one of the busiest in secondary schools as we support our examination students in completing their coursework and run support sessions for Year 11 and 13 students every night of the week. This year, with the new GCSE qualifications in English and Mathematics, and the new A-Level specifications in many subjects, it has felt even busier than normal and I think teachers, students and our support staff are all counting down the days until the end of term.

The end of every term brings the possibility of members of staff leaving and it is with great sadness that I announce the departure of Mrs Pike, Head of Design Technology. She has been with us since 2006 and has supported many students in honing their graphic design and technological skills. Mrs Pike is moving out of the area and I wish her every success in the future. There will be temporary coverage of Mrs Pike’s classes during terms 5 and 6 while we appoint a permanent replacement for September. There will also be temporary coverage of Mrs Harris’ English classes while we seek out a permanent replacement.

We are tremendously grateful for all the support and help we receive from parents in helping us to instil habits of good behaviour for learning and a positive work ethic. You can have a large impact on your child’s conduct and achievement and indeed, the improvements we have seen in punctuality this year will be largely due to the support of parents. We are still concerned, however, about the behaviour of a small minority of students while travelling to and from school and often while using public transport. Apart from regularly talking with students regarding our expectations of behaviour travelling to and from school and imposing sanctions when students’ behaviour does not meet expectations, there is little more the School can do. Therefore, I ask parents and carers to please support our efforts to ensure all of our students behave well and show consideration for the general public by reinforcing the school’s expectations with your child at home.

Our last day of term is Thursday April 6th. We will be having lessons as normal and closing at the usual time. However, we will not be running after school clubs, activities or support sessions on that day so students will be expected to leave the school site at the end of the school day.

I wish you a very happy Easter.

Yours sincerely

Juliet Diaz
Principal