## THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL



Headteacher: Mr P E McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Peaks Hill Purley Surrey CR8 3YP

4<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Dear Parents/Carer,

I am writing to update you on a few matters regarding Year 11 students. I have been impressed by the commitment of our students and I feel they are putting in a good deal of effort. We will encourage them to keep this up and to build on this as we move towards the exams. We had our Year 11 Celebration Mass on Tuesday which was a lovely occasion. Our Ascension Mass on Thursday morning next week will be for students in Key Stage 3. Your son is asked to make plans with you to attend this mass outside of school. Unfortunately the Year 11 Photo was unable to take place at the end of the last half term due to the weather and the photographers could not provide us with an alternative suitable date.

All students will be in all normal lessons until Friday 11th May providing the entire year group demonstrate exemplary conduct. From Monday 14th May students will still attend school every morning for either, an examination, a revision session or normal lessons. Any requested absence from school would have to be in writing from a parent/carer to Mr McCullagh. If students do not have an afternoon exam they will be allowed to go home after their morning examination. Where students will need to attend normal lessons during Period 3 and Period 4 they will be expected to have resources available to conduct their own revision in school.

The school will be running revision sessions in subjects such as RE, Drama, Business Studies, Food Technology, Maths etc and the students who are asked to attend these sessions are expected to be there. Details on the dates and venues of these revision sessions will be communicated to the parents/carers of the students involved by Mrs Cody.

I would just like to take this opportunity to explain a few things to ensure students and parents/carers have absolute clarity of expectations over the coming weeks:

Uniform: Students are asked to wear full school summer uniform, including school shoes to each exam. School rules do not change during the exam period.

Exam times: Morning exams are scheduled to start at 9.00am. The very latest a student should arrive is 8.30am unless there are revision sessions which start from 8.00am in the morning. Afternoon exams begin at 1.00pm. The very latest a student should arrive is 12.40pm.

General advice:

1. Try to get a good night's sleep. Staying up too late to do "last minute" cramming will not help the next day if you are too tired to concentrate. Plan your revision for each exam well in advance.

2. Keep hydrated – water is best. Avoid "energy" drinks with high levels of caffeine.

3. Arrive in plenty of time. There is nothing worse than arriving stressed and panicked. Allow plenty of time to get to school so that you are calm and can begin to focus.

4. Do not skip breakfast. You need to set yourself up for the day, particularly if you have a morning and an afternoon exam.

5. Be organised – have spare black ink pens and any equipment required for the exam. Know your seat number and candidate number - don't leave this to the last minute.

6. Be on time!

I am sure you will keep monitoring, supporting and encouraging your child over the exam period and encourage them to have a positive mind-set and to try their very best. I hope the students continue to make the most of the few days remaining to ensure that they do their very best this summer. I have every confidence they will do themselves proud and we look forward to welcoming them back to the Sixth Form next year.

Yours sincerely

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P E McCullagh Headteacher