

Our ref: sh.easter.letter/et

Date: 6 April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I can't believe that it is already the end of the spring term! I would just like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the staff and college. It is always "different" when a new Head Teacher arrives and makes inevitable tweaks to what has gone on before, but everybody has worked together, with the results being very positive. For example:

Two year groups have experienced the new style of report, where a student now receives written, individual feedback from every subject they are taught. Parents/carers were presented with these documents at parent's evenings and I was delighted with how many of you were able to attend. Feedback from staff, parents/carers and students has been overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to completing the remaining year group's reports next term.

New dining room furniture, layout and queuing systems have been introduced which has led to a far more relaxed experience at lunch time. Students can now comfortably sit in large groups, with their friends, and have enough space to eat their lunch whilst doing so. In the coming months we hope to introduce parent pay which will allow parents to pay online, if preferred, for college lunches.

Subjects have also re visited homework, so quality as opposed to quantity will start to filter through to students in order to boost understanding and knowledge.

We look forward to hearing how Key stage 3 and Key stage 4 enjoyed Harry Potter World as a number of students are preparing for the Easter excursion to "Hogwarts" itself.

Our Twitter feed now has over 320 followers! We would love you to get involved and follow us by visiting our new website www.mortimercommunitycollege.co.uk. Positive news and general information is published daily for your reference.

A new Chair of Governors, Mr S Coldwell, has been elected whilst there are also two new parent governors who have also been elected, joining our Governing body. I am sure you will join me in wishing them the very best of luck and support in this exciting time for the college.

Expectations of students continue to rise as I, along with the staff, want the very best for them. A reminder that mobile phones are not to be out at any time unless it is break or lunch time, or a member of staff has allowed them to be used to assist with the lesson they are teaching. Similarly college uniform is our polo shirt, dark trousers or skirt, black footwear and no jewellery other than a watch.

As Year 9 have just chosen their option subjects, year 10 and year 11 are getting ready for their GCSE exams. Holidays are a time for rest, however the importance of revision at home cannot be underestimated as year 11 especially have been building towards these exams for 4 ½ years. One final push of hard work and revision over the Easter period, by attending sessions that staff are putting on in the holidays and revising at home too will really be worth it!

When returning after half term any students who are arriving to college, by bike, are to use the student bike sheds only, as the bike point outside reception is for staff and visitors. If a student is late to school, they will be asked to carry their bike through to the student bike shed as this area is secure. A reminder that all students should be on site by 8.50 am.

Once again thank you for your continued support! I can't stress enough how important it is as we look to build an outstanding provision for the students of Mortimer Community College.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Hignett

Head Teacher

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