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WETHERBY

SENIOR SCHOOL

17th January 2020

Spring Term Week 2



Dear Parents,

I am sorry to say that, according to popular psychology, we are just a couple of days away from Blue Monday, allegedly the most depressing day of the year. It will not feel that way for Years 11 and 13 as they return to their usual routine and I am sure many of them will be looking forward to spending some time out of Hannah House Hall. I have continued to be impressed with their conscientious approach and, whilst the marks are yet to be published, they will have all learnt lessons from the process and will continue to learn over the next few weeks as papers are returned. It is hard for them not to get distracted by the overall mark; whatever the score is, good or bad, but they need to focus on areas for improvement and work on those in the coming weeks. It is undoubtedly a tough couple of weeks for them and I hope they enjoy the weekend; the Year 11 parents I spoke to yesterday said they all plan to sleep.

As you know I have been keeping you up to date with university offers and I am very pleased to tell you that Talal Hangari has deservedly been offered a place at Peterhouse College, Cambridge to read History. The offer season will continue for some time and some of the most competitive institutions are yet to show their hand so I hope there will be more good news to report in the future. The Lower Sixth boys have started to think about where they will go next and I recommend the talk for Lower Sixth parents and boys on Thursday 23rd January. Mrs Deedat will take you through the UK application process, explain how the school supports your son and more importantly what your sons should be doing in preparation. These decisions are very much something that your son will need to take the lead on; the decisions about what to study and where to study it should largely be his.

I was delighted to hear earlier this week that over half of the Lower Sixth has signed up to the new mentoring scheme being led by Miss Mendes and Mrs Leonello, the School Coach. This is a great opportunity for the boys to play an important role in the community, learn the skills to support others and develop their own leadership skills. I

hope some of them will also get involved supporting pupils at the primary school I visited earlier this week, St. Edward's Catholic Primary School. It is a delightful school and I hope a partnership will develop over the coming months.

Whilst we focus on the boys at the top end of the school, our attention is also drawn to the younger boys at this time of the year as we are in the middle of the 11+ entry process. Application numbers are up again this year and our reach is extending into new schools each year. My colleagues and I who are interviewing tomorrow are greatly looking forward to meeting this year's applicants and discussing their academic and broader interests with them.

Thank you to those who turned out to support the PTA's recycled uniform sale. A total of £1,004 was raised. It is a great way of ensuring uniform does not end up in landfill and of raising money for the school's chosen charities. The next recycled uniform sale will be held in March.

Have a relaxing weekend, particularly the families of Year 11 and 13.

Best wishes, Seth

CALENDAR:

Monday 20th:

Year 12 RAT tests all week

GCSE Ski Assessment, Hemel Snow Centre 12:00-21:30

L6th Workshop: Sex & Relationships Education, WSS Sixth Form Centre

15:10-16:10

Tuesday 21st:

Football U15 A/B WSS vs UCS (H) 14:30

Wednesday 22nd:

Rugby 1st XV WSS vs Box Hill School (H) 14:30

Thursday 23rd:

Football U14A & B WSS vs UCS (A) 14:30

L6 Parent Talk: Applying to University in the UK, Mrs Deedat, Hannah House Hall

18:00-19:00

Friday 24th:

Trib Assemblies 15:15-16:00

GCSE PE Boys Table Tennis, Hannah House Hall 16:00-17:00

NOTICES:

Wetherby's Pupil Coaching and Peer Mentoring programme

Wetherby's Pupil Coaching and Peer Mentoring programme will be up and running shortly. Lower 6th Mentors have undertaken training this week and will be in the Wellbeing Room every Monday and Tuesday for boys who want to discuss any issues. Please email Miss Mendes (gillian.mendes@wetherbysenior.co.uk) for more details.

Great Men Lecture Series

The Great Men lecture series complements our partnership with Good Lad Initiative, an organisation that aims to get boys talking about masculinity and gender stereotypes. From Year 9, the boys take part in bespoke, age-appropriate workshops where they are given the opportunity to discuss topics including sexuality, violence, emotional wellbeing, objectification & body image. As the boys progress through the school, these workshops build on the various themes and issues covered each year.

Lectures are held on Friday afternoons with guest speakers from a variety of backgrounds and industries sharing their life experiences and learnings with the boys.



Wetherby Senior School Great Men Lecture Series

Open to all year groups – sign up via your tutor.

Date: 14th February 2020

Who: Ollie Rosenblatt, founder of Senbla

Ollie Rosenblatt founded Senbla in 2011 at the age of 23. He has built up his business from the ground up through immense passion and hard work and is now one of the leading promoters in the UK. He promotes artists such as Michael Bubl , Diana Ross, Ennio Morricone and many others. Senbla works across various genres of music and styles of entertainment both nationally and internationally.

Time: 14.15 – 15.15

Venue: Hannah House Hall



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