

27th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I just wanted to take a few minutes to write to you all before the Easter break, in order to share what we have been doing and tell you how proud I am of all of your children. This is a truly fantastic year group to manage, and they are held in high esteem by all of my colleagues. No academic year is ever without its ups, downs, personal setbacks and knocks to confidence. However, the general vibe within the Sixth Form is outstanding and I am thoroughly enjoying being Head of Year to this cohort. It has also been a pleasure working with you all and getting to know some more of you this term, whether on the phone or in person. As ever, this is a joint venture and I know that you have also worked very closely with Emma Hough and Claire Tierney, who I rely on every single day to support me with your children and communicate with yourselves. We are all in agreement that although this has been a short term, it has been an exceptionally busy, highly enjoyable one.

Claire organised for St John's Ambulance to come into school on a number of days in order to deliver basic First Aid and CPR training to all Year 12 form groups, during morning registration sessions. The volunteers who delivered this training were all trainee doctors, and the students were excellent in their approach to getting involved. This training could literally save a life and I am so pleased with how well the students conducted themselves on these days.

The students have also excelled in their leadership skills this term, by putting themselves forward to create and present assemblies. We have had students discussing key cultural themes that are important to them including cultural heritage and festivals, Ramadan, Diwali and Easter. Students have not only delivered to our own year group, but have also presented to younger groups and over at the Olney campus. When we have asked for volunteers for community events they never failed to respond, and the Facebook page is always buzzing with Year 12 examples of students representing our school – for example with primary school events, charities and at care homes. Their generosity with their time and ability to work with such a diverse range of people and age groups is to be commended.

We do enjoy competition and have been challenging the students to achieve more positive points on Class Charts. The number of milestone certificates has increased considerably and forms have competed for chocolate egg prizes this half-term. Next term we have booked 3 mornings at the Cue Academy pool hall in Newport Pagnell for the top scoring 25% of students, according to class charts. They will be rewarded for their hard work and recognised for their consistent work ethic with a morning of pool, darts, music and the option to buy a reduced price lunch. We are really looking forward to these sessions, which are booked for the first week of June.

It will be a very busy term with work experience taking place from the 8th until 19th July, starting preparations for UCAS including a University visit and the revising for end of year exams. The students need to start planning accordingly and providing themselves with the best possible chances of landing a productive work experience and achieving a fantastic set of end of year grades.

All work experience planning is completed on Unifrog, which the students can access with their log-in details, and we encourage parents to remind students to organise a placement that could benefit them.

Every year students make connections, which lead on to real interviews, apprenticeships and full-time work after A-Levels. Work experience is also beneficial, sometimes essential, for UCAS applications to university, and so this is not an opportunity to be missed. If anybody has any questions about any of the above, then please do contact the school.

I would just like to wish everyone a 'Happy Easter' and hope that you all have a restful break. Hopefully the weather picks up and we can all enjoy some well earned family time.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Nagle', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Haley Nagle

Pastoral and Academic Lead Year 12