

10th March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers/Students

International Women's Day

On Wednesday, we celebrated International Women's Day. Throughout the week, the SMSC activities in registration have focused on this year's campaign: Embrace Equity. Ms Jennings produced materials which focused on the differences between equality and equity. As our assemblies this week have been linked to Careers Week, all assemblies next week will be related to International Women's Day.

Careers Week

Throughout this week there have been multiple events put on for students aimed at raising awareness of potential careers. At lunchtimes, external speakers have delivered sessions for all students on apprenticeships, education, medicine, law/police, pharmaceutical/science and construction/engineering. On Wednesday, we were joined by parents and ex-students who delivered workshops to Year 12 students on publishing, finance, science, healthcare, law and IT. The week has ended today with all Year 10 students presenting their CV to an external interviewer who then spent time asking them questions. We are extremely grateful to those parents, trustees and ex-students who have given up their time voluntarily to support the sessions. Thank you Mrs Stephenson and Mrs Marshall for organising and leading the week. Next week's SMSC activities in form time are linked to careers.

Strike Days 3 and 4

As you will be aware, there are two further strike days planned for Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. School will be open for **Year 11, 12 and 13** students only on both days. All other students will access remote lessons where the teacher is available, or complete homework, super curriculum tasks or catch up on work missed. On Thursday 16th, the U16 football team will be playing their County Cup semi-final. Mr Macrae will contact the Year 10 students involved directly about their attendance at the match which will still go ahead regardless of the strike.

Netball National Championships

Best of luck to our U16 Netball team who will be taking part in the National Schools Finals this weekend. I hope the weather improves, although I am sure they will have a great day regardless.

Duke of Edinburgh

Good luck to the 145 Year 9 students who will be on their Bronze expedition on Thursday and Friday next week. I am sure they will have an enjoyable time.

I have been informed on the 'grapevine' that some of the Year 9 students not on the DofE expedition have said that they may be ill next Friday. It is a normal school day on Friday 17th March so we expect those students in school for lessons.





As part of the DofE award, students are expected to be involved in a physical activity, to learn a new skill and to volunteer. Well done to Eva Rhodes, who is learning the skill of dog training and handling. Eva entered Crufts this year and has been awarded second place in the Dog Activities section. Eva and her English Pointer dog Ava had to do several exercises which included "Stack the Dog" and "Running in a Triangle". We are very proud of her achievement and wish her the best for her entry into Crufts 2024!



'How To Revise In Maths' Workshop - Year 11

The Mathematics Department will be hosting a parent/carer and student "How To Revise in Maths" workshop on **Tuesday 21st March** from 6pm to 7pm in the school hall. It is a great opportunity to ensure your child has the tools they need to succeed in their GCSE Maths exams in the summer.

We will be providing information on the most effective strategies that can be applied when revising Mathematics, signposting you to resources that are available to students and putting some of the strategies into practice in the session. We look forward to seeing as many Year 11 students and their parents/carers as possible.

If you are planning on attending, please click <u>here</u> and complete the short form by Friday 17th March.

Stargazing

Good luck to the Sixth Form students who are supporting a stargazing session this evening at Bengeo Primary School for younger students. They are also supported by the Hertford Astronomy Group. This initiative is part of the work we are doing with other schools to promote science to a younger audience, and is sponsored by the Ogden Trust.

I wish you all a pleasant, but likely wet, weekend.

Regards

Mr M Warren Headteacher