



October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of our first half term of Year 11, I wanted to send a short letter to update you on what has happened this week and what will be happening as we come back from half term and approach our mock exam period.

I want to first of all say how brilliant it has been today to see so many Year 11 students engaging in our sixth form taster day and/or going out for a college visit. Whilst I still can't quite believe that the young people I first met when they were 11 — and later became their Achievement Leader in Year 9 — are now old enough to be thinking about taster days, it made Mrs. Wainwright and me proud to see them taking part in the event with such maturity and focus. We obviously will be sad to see them go at the end of the year but I do hope that for the majority, sixth form is central to their plans. When we come back from half term we have allocated the first two Fridays of tutor time to allow the students time to send off applications. Should you have any questions around this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I also want to draw attention to the fact that we will be asked for references from sixth form or colleges when they receive applications. One thing I have told the students is that any students who have an attendance less than 90% will be considered as persistent absentees and colleges and sixth forms will require this information. This doesn't affect a great deal of students as it stands, but it is something I want to make you all aware of, especially as we enter the colder and darker months where I appreciate it takes a little bit more effort in the morning. As previously discussed, attendance is the number one indicator of academic attainment and is crucial in securing outcomes for students.

When we come back from half term we will embark on a two week period of consolidation where the students will be given extra homework. This will mainly be based around past papers and exam questions and it is crucial that they complete them with full attention. I have spoken to the year group about homework basically being "free" revision and that can easily double up as the time spent revising. Please find the consolidation calendar here -

[Homework Calendar - Year 11 2025/26](#)

The mock exam period will start on Monday 17 November and lasts for a fortnight. During this time students need to arrive at school at 8.30am (as per the Year 10 mocks), to lock their belongings away and be ready to enter their pre-exam focus lesson. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.

I want to thank you again for your support.

Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Bentley
Achievement Leader - Year 11