

9th May 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope my email finds you and your families well.

This week has seen the start of the GCSE exams and next week the A Level exams will commence too. Our students have showed resilience, maturity and high levels of motivation. We know very well, however, that the exam season can be a stressful time for young people. If you feel your child needs some support in school, please contact their Pastoral Team or Crew Leader.

If you are looking for guidance in how you can support your child through this exam period, Young Minds.org offers some useful tips for parents. These can be found on their website: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/>

There are also pages directed at the students themselves, providing advice on coping with exam stress: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

Full Crew Assemblies

This week, we have celebrated the World of Work and invited Angela Reed, from the Department for Work and Pensions, to support with key messages. Angela spoke to students about labour market information and the role it plays in future proofing careers. We believe it is so important that our students are aware of the reputable sources they can go to and find relevant information. We were really pleased with the engagement of the students and some very interesting questions came from younger children in Key Stage 3. Please see attached a leaflet that provides more information about the Labour Market.

Traffic at the end of the day

Unfortunately, we continue to experience very high levels of traffic and congestion at the end of the school day which presents a significant safety issue for our students. We would like to remind parents and carers that we need to always ensure safe access for emergency vehicles, as well as ensuring student safety on pathways out onto London Road.

In addition to congestion on London Road, cars are parking on double yellow lines and some drivers of these vehicles are encouraging students to take risks by running across traffic. Sadly, we have also had instances of parents and carers reversing up kerbs whilst students are walking past the bus bays. Parking in the bus bay has also led to frustrations from our bus companies who are contracted to safely collect students and transport them home.

Therefore, we politely request that students are not picked up on the school site unless there is a medical need for your child that requires you to do so. This helps us to minimise the number of cars that are entering and leaving the area whilst supervising students walking out of the building.

We have sought support from the appropriate local authorities in introducing new road safety measures and spot checks on parking too to mitigate these issues. I know that you will be keen to help us make the local area safer for all our students, as well as members of the public.

Key Events Half Term 5 and Half Term 6

Thursday 22 nd May	Music Recital
Friday 23 rd April	End of Summer half term 1
Monday 2 nd June	Start of Summer half term 2
Thursday 5 th June	Y9 Achievement Evening
Thursday 26 th June	Y11 Prom
Thursday 3 rd July	Transition Celebration Evening
Thursday 10 th July	Summer Spectacular Performance
Thursday 17 th July	Celebration Event
Friday 25 th July	End of Summer Term

I hope your children have had a productive and enjoyable week at school.

Have a restful weekend.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Peña', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Miss Peña

Headteacher