



December 2021 Newsletter



GCSE Awards 2021

As is customary at this time of year, we have recently held our annual Year 11 Awards ceremony. In view of the current guidance around COVID-19 and the obvious risks of bringing large numbers of people into close proximity, we made the decision to record the ceremony as a 'virtual event', presented by Mr Morland, Senior Assistant Headteacher/Head of Key Stage 4 and Mr Edwards, Head of Year 11, 2020-21, and which can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/7 L3iCERjlc.

This recording, which also includes some very heartfelt reflections of an outstanding year group, recognises a range of outstanding academic and pastoral accomplishments of a cohort who showed incredible resolution and determination in the ways that they managed a series of COVID-related disruptions during their final two years at Kingshill School. They were a year group whom we remain immensely proud of, and who are greatly missed: we really encourage you to spend a few minutes of your Christmas holidays watching the presentation and celebrating the success of some truly outstanding pupils.

Mr Morland,

Senior Assistant Head, Head of KS4

Year 11 GCSE Result Day

Congratulations to the Class of 2021 for your fantastic GCSE results. You all worked very hard and should be very proud of your efforts. We wish you every success for the future.











A message from the Head



And just like that, we find ourselves at the end of another year. I would like to thank parents and carers for your support in what has been another challenging year. I would also like to thank staff for continuing to teach and work with high expectations, keeping school an engaging, bright and positive place to learn.

I would like to welcome the Year 7 pupils to Kingshill, they have settled well into school life and lessons. We are sure they will be able to thrive at Kingshill.

All pupils are adapting to wearing masks again around school and back in the classrooms and are showing great maturity in doing so, well done to all.

Our Year 11's have sat their mock examinations this month and I am very proud of them for showing commitment to their subjects and studies, they have been working very hard.

We have been able to run the EXTEND programme this term, which has been a great success. We know that pupils find these extra curricular activities rewarding and fun. Details of next terms classes have been sent out this week, please see details on Parent Mail.

I wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy Christmas, and I look forward to welcoming Y7, Y10 and Y11 pupils back to school on Tuesday 4th January 2022 and Y8 and Y9 pupils on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Miss Christine S. Oates,
Headteacher



IN THIS EDITION...



Page 1	GCSE Awards
Page 2	Head's Welcome
Page 3	Contents Page
Page 4– 5	News from the Chair of Governors
Page 6 - 8	Welcome to New Staff / Leavers
Page 9	<u>Christmas Concert</u>
Page 10	Message from The Friends of Kingshill
Page 11– 16	School News
Page 18	Eco update
Page 19	Mental Health - Information
Page 20	Foodbank Appeal
Page 21	<u>Up Coming—After school Activities</u>
Page 22 –23	Christmas Cookies —Snow Globe Ideas
Page 24	School Calendar

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year.





News from the Chair of Governors

At the first Full Governing Body Meeting of this academic year in October, Mr Johnson stood down as Chair of Governors having carried out the role for 11 years. I would like to record my sincere thanks to him for his dedication to the role throughout his time and for the many hours of work he put in on behalf of the whole school community. I feel privileged to be elected as his replacement and will endeavour to be as effective in the position as Mr Johnson was.

Although the Full Governing Body meeting took place in school, much of the work of the Governing Body has by necessity been conducted online, with meetings taking place via Microsoft Teams organised by our new Governance Professional (formerly Clerk to the Governors) Mrs Bryant, who I am delighted to welcome to the role.

For the benefit of new parents, I wish to reiterate the message from Mr Johnson in the last newsletter regarding the proposed new structure of the Governing Body.

As a consequence of regulations for Academies (as laid down by the DfE, Department for Education), Governors have been engaged in discussions about re-structuring the Governing Body into two new bodies — a Board of Trustees and a Board of Members.

The Board of Trustees will continue with all the usual work of the Governing Body and will retain the same responsibilities as Governors have at present. The Board of Members will be independent of the Trustees and will not be involved in the day-to-day business of the school. They will scrutinize the work of the Board of Trustees and be responsible for

Appointing or removing Trustees. The DfE describes Members as being "eyes on, hands off". This structure is now a requirement for all Academy Trusts. We hope to implement this change before Easter in 2022.

Since the last newsletter, there have been meetings of:

- Full Governing Body: 7th October 2021, 24th November 2021 and 2nd December 2021
- · Curriculum and Pastoral Committee: 9th November 2021
- · Buildings, Health and Safety Committee: 17th November 2021
- · Staffing Committee: 3rd November 2021
- · Finance, Audit and Risk Committee: 14th October 2021
- · Chair's Committee: 30th September 2021



The principal item at the Full Governing Body meeting of the 7th October 2021 was the Head's report, which provided Governors with details of the work of the school since the previous such report in July 2021. We were also given a detailed breakdown of the GCSE and BTEC grades awarded to the Year 11 pupils in the Summer of 2021. They are to be congratulated on their achievements and we wish them every success in the future. There was also an update on the arrangements that continue to be in place to mitigate the disruption caused by the ongoing Covid pandemic.

The various committees review policies annually and since the start of this academic year they include:

- Accessibility Plan
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Cover Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Emergency Response Procedures and Lock Down Procedure
- Fire Procedure
- Green Procurement Policy
- Homework Policy

Dealing with all the above requires a lot of hard work and expertise on the part of our staff. My thanks go to them all.

Mr A Thomas

Chair of Governors



NEW STAFF

Welcome to our new members of staff. We wish you a long and happy time at Kingshill





Name: Mrs Rachael Sperti Role: Assistant to Head's PA

Last Book Read: Christmas Shopaholic by Sophie Kinsella.

Best Film: Home Alone 2

Three Words To Describe You: Passionate, kind and

friendly.





Name: Mr Tom Leadbeater

Role: Temporary Site Assistant.

Last Book Read: Dune by Frank Herbert

Best Film: The Dark Knight

Three Words To Describe You: Approachable, calm and

friendly.





Name: Mrs Bonnie Som

Role: Teaching Assistant

Last Book Read: Peril at End House (Hercule Poirot) by

Agatha Christie

Best Film: Nomadland

Three Words To Describe You: "The American one with the

big red glasses"



NEW STAFF





Name: Mrs Lorraine Harvey

Role: Teaching Assistant

Last Book Read: Robert Harris - Enigma

Best Film: So many.. Lion, Tea with Mussolini,

Its a wonderful life...

Three Words To Describe You: Tries her best





Name: Miss Maisie Aldridge

Role: Teaching Assistant

Last Book Read: The Burning-Laura Bates

Best Film: : Mamma Mia 2, Here We Go Again

Claim to Fame: Performed a speech at the United Nations

in New York last year.





Name: Mrs Theresa Cleaver

Role: Teaching Assistant

Last Book Read: Allegiant by Veronica Roth

Best Film: - Far too many to chose from!

Three Words To Describe You: Cheerful, prepared,

helpful.



NEW STAFF



Name: Mrs Shelly Ryder Role: Learning Advisor

Last Book Read: Zero Negativity Power of Positive

Thinking by Ant Middleton

Three Words To Describe You: Postive, bubbly, and

creative.



Name: Miss Barbara Czekanska

Role: Teaching Assistant

Last Book Read: "Into the magic shop"

by Dr James Doty

Three Words To Describe You: Happy, simple and kind



GOODBYE



Name: Mr Nick Mellor

Role: Science Technician

We say Goodbye and thank you to Mr Mellor and wish him every success in his future career.

Christmas Concert



We were delighted to be able to hold our Christmas Concert in school on Monday 13th December 2021. Staff and pupils made up the audience, while families were able to watch from home with a live stream.

Music and singing was of the highest calibre, with exceptional individual and group performances.

Some of the Year 8 pupils had learnt sign language and signed to "Merry Christmas Everyone", they were absolutely brilliant!

The performance could not have taken place without the dedication of pupils and Miss Garry, Head of Music.

We are very lucky to have a wonderful music faculty in school . If you are interested in playing music, please sign up to Extend after school clubs. Tech Group takes place on Wednesday's, 3:15—4:00 and is a great way of playing music and making friends.

Who knows, maybe next year you could be in the Christmas Concert!











MUSIC NEWS

Christmas has arrived early in the music department as pupils are busy preparing for the Christmas

Concert!

Concert Band, Music Technology Club and both KS3 & KS4 choirs have been practicing hard for the upcoming event.

KS3 pupils have been developing their skills on a choice of instruments by learning some famous Christmas music. They are now on track to be confidently playing their chosen songs, using the skills they have been developing! It's brilliant to be back in the music room, particularly for this time of year.

Instrumental lessons are going strong and we are pleased to welcome our new singing teacher, Alice Nelson, to the team. Welcome Alice!

Our production next year is the 'Addams Family' - auditions have taken place and we cannot wait to start working on it!

Miss A Garry

Head of Music



Christmas Jumper Day



Christmas jumper day on the16th
December 2021 was a great success.
It was lovely to see children and staff
wearing their festive jumpers.
Thank you for the donations for Save
The Children.



Update from the Friends of Kingshill School

Despite the ongoing pandemic the Friends continue their vital work.

Although currently school events are very limited, we are still holding our meetings, albeit online and selling second hand uniform, as well as generally supporting the teachers and school however we can.

Our next AGM meeting will be held in January, date to be confirmed. We are looking to appoint committee members for the next year including a Secretary, Treasurer and also some 'general' committee members, who can help with various aspects of our work.

If anyone is interested to find out any details or volunteer please contact Rene Blamey rblamey@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk.

We will be selling second hand school uniform at various events at the school. Please check our Facebook page for details of forthcoming dates/times when we will be at the school. We will also send out a note via Parentmail before events.

We would love all parents and carers of pupils at Kingshill School to keep in touch with the important work of the Friends of Kingshill School.

To be added to our mailing list (no spam!) please email rblamey@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk. Our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FKSCirencester) contains updates and notices, so please do visit and 'like' the page to follow.

Thanks for all your support,

The Friends of Kingshill School

School News

Tesco Community Grant

If you are shopping in any of the local Tesco stores over the next few weeks, you will be likely to see that Kingshill School have successfully been

recognised for nominations for a Tesco Community Grant.

This bid was put forward by Mrs Paddock, our Inclusion Manager, and we were delighted that it was accepted as being such a worthy cause. The idea is aimed at supporting funding for our 'Access to Food' initiative, which includes supporting our provision for breakfast food and drinks for some of our most vulnerable pupils who often start their school days in our Inclusion hub. Any funding generated will also support access to catering ingredients for those pupils whose personal circumstances means that they need support in being prepared for their lessons in Food and Nutrition.

We are sure that you will recognise each of these as being very worthwhile causes and would really encourage you to donate the tokens that you receive after your visit to Tesco's into the pot allocated to Kingshill School! You can register your support of this worthy cause each time you shop at your local Tesco store from the first week of January 2022 through to 31st March 2022.

Mr J Morland

Senior Assistant Head

Charity Events

Children in Need

Children In Need was held on Friday 19th November 2021.

Year 8 raised a fantastic £232.90 selling cakes and sweets during break and lunch.

Combined with donations for non-uniform, we raised a grand total of £1,143.07.

Well Done everyone!!!





Motor Neurone Disease

Well done to 9E for their cake sale on Friday

3rd December 2021.

They raised a total of £118.50 for Motor Neurone Disease, Year 9's chosen charity.



Sports News

Schools District Cross Country Trials, Archway, Stroud on Tuesday 19th October 2021

On a very wet and windy day, 26 pupils competed for Kingshill School. All of them were amazing, competing and supporting each other. We are hoping at least nine have gone through to Counties which will be at Newent. Below are a list of the pupils who competed:

Year 7: Harry Burdekin, Ruan Delport, Oliver Rycherd-Smith, Ethan Burton, Harriet Falconer, Luziana Warwick, Sophie Hunter-Osborne, Jessica Williams

Year 8: Jasper Poulton-Stowe, Daniel Chapman, Isabella Stickney, Zoe Manaly, Abigail Clarke, Gracie Dyson, Phoebe Taylor, Marli Keville, Rowen Elwin

Year 9: Alex Marshall Caitlin Musgrove, Khaya Swaine

Year 10: Codey Boswell, Lily Mulcock

Year 11: Ben Steel, Jake Hawkins, Lewis Knapman, Amelia Newell

Update

Sunday 5th December 2021 - Schools Country Cross Country Championships, Newent Community College - five pupils travelled to Newent and gave their best to represent Kingshill and the South Cotswold District.

Year 7:

Harry Burdekin **7**th Harry should go through to the South Wests

Ruan Delport 28th

Year 8/9:

Zoe Manaley **33**rd
Isabella Stickney **DNF**

Year 10/11:

Amelia Newell **4**th Amelia is going through to counties

Congratulations to you all!

Mrs C. See

Athletics Coach











Year 7 Teambuilding Trip – Redwood, Slimbridge

On Tuesday 5th October 2021, we took a group of Year 7 pupils to Redwood for a day of exploration in the great outdoors. The site is run by the Ernest Cook Trust who offer educational opportunities and experiences to schools.

The first task of the day was orienteering. The instructor introduced pupils to map reading and took them for a short guided walk to check they knew how to use their maps and navigate around the woods – they all listened well and understood the task very quickly. The pupils split into small teams and set off - each map showed where numbered posts could be found. The teams were given a different sheet of target markers to find and they had to work together as a team and plan their routes (so they weren't going round in circles!).

After lunch the pupils were split into two groups to carry out the next tasks. They had to build a shelter using sticks, branches and standing trees. Working together, they had to work out the best way to make their shelters and which materials were best to use. There were some fantastic creations.

The students also toasted marshmallows in a fire pit constructed by the instructor. Some pupils toasted their marshmallows lightly and others were convinced that they needed to toast them till they were black!

All the pupils threw themselves into the activities and worked very well together. We were lucky that the forecasted high winds did not arrive and we only had light rain the night before – a little mud never hurt anybody!

it was a pleasure working with the pupils and spending the day outside in such a beautiful setting.

A big thankyou to the TAs, Mrs Landa-Font, Mrs Cleaver and Mrs Harvey for their help on the day.

Mrs A. Lambrou, Learning Advisor and Mrs S. Ryder, Lead Learning Advisor



Pictured are:

William Griffin-Taylor,

Scarlett Narramore,

Dakota Proudlock, Izzy Butler, Lucy Bromley, Bradley McKenna, Melanie Horn-Serra, Lucy Bromley, Alisha Higgins, Nate Adams, Makenzie Powell, Aiden Stridgeon, Hayden Williams, Oliver Skok, Sophie Brisley, Alicha Hadley

Talented Year 10 Art Pupils win competition

Ruby Pritchett 10B has won the Glorious Cotswold Grasslands Art competition. This competition was open to 11-19 year olds based in and around the Cotswolds. Competitors were asked to create a piece of art work which celebrates the beauty of meadows, their wildflowers and wildlife to encourage the restoration and creation of more wildflower meadows.

The judges found her work uplifting and loved the inclusion of wildflowers such as wild carrot and oxeve daisies. The inclusion of seed pods and seed dispersal is also a great nod to the seed collecting work carried out by judge Anna Field and her colleagues from the Glorious Cotswold Grasslands project.

Aardman Animator Jim Parkyn said, 'Ruby has captured grasslands in a rather 1950's print style that I like very much. Her use of blank space and shape is very appealing.'

Ellie Rowlands 10D was also named as the close runner up - the judges loved her colour use, composition and the mix of wildflowers included in her painting.

Both Ruby and Ellie have received a place on the model-making workshop with

Jim Parkyn and their work is going to be featured in an online

gallery, physical exhibition and as a feature in the Cotswold Area Of Natural Beauty's

online publication Cotswold Lion.

Ruby and Ellie's art work will be

exhibited at Nature in Art Gallery & Museum for 3 weeks over the Easter Holidays 2022!

Nature in Art is the world's first museum and art gallery dedicated to art inspired by nature. The director of the gallery and museum is thrilled to exhibit the submitted artworks and will be creating bespoke art activity days, displays and events inspired by the artworks and the Glorious Cotswold Grasslands project.



This year, we have introduced a new topic to the Year 9 Design Technology rotation. Pupils have been given the opportunity to explore Photography alongside the different DT disciplines; Textiles, 3D Design and Food.



We began by looking at Textiles and Photography. Pupils took portraits and then, inspired by artists such as Jose Romussi, they

manipulated their photos

by stitching them onto the portrait.





We continued with the theme of textiles, photographing fabrics up close, this time the outcome is presented as a 3D sculpture.

We addressed colour theory and planned a photo shoot, by drawing intended outcomes before working in small groups, to produce still life setups of fruits and vegetables. These outcomes are then taken into an editing programme called Lightroom. Pupils can edit and manipulate their images so as to refine and enhance their own unique final outcomes. Homework tasks are designed to be challenging, thus giving pupils an idea of what to expect at GCSE for Design Technology subjects and Photography. Pupils have risen to these challenges and produced impressive results.















Continuing with the theme of food, we looked at arranging and styling spoons and spices, again these images are taken into the Lightroom for further editing.











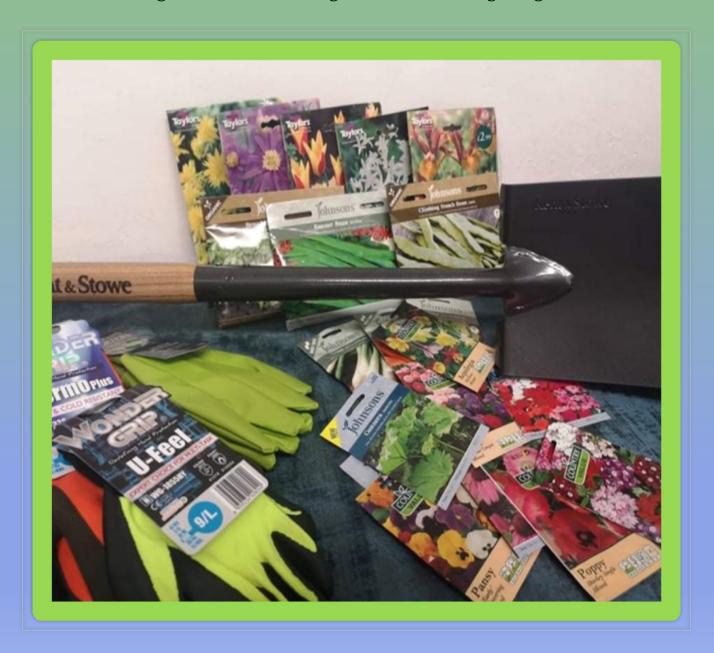
By
Mrs R Vine
Head of Art and
Photography

ECO CLUB NEWS

Ecoclub was lucky to receive a kind donation from Gardiner Haskins in Cirencester of gloves, a spade and some seeds for the garden.

We were also gifted some lovely bulbs for the Eco garden, which we planted by the science block.

We have been busy doing lots of other activities including some pond dipping, digging a veggie patch, planting onions and garlic, cutting back the wildflower meadow, making bird feeders, clearing a den and a making a bug hotel.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Sunday 10th October was World Mental Health Day 2021



The World Health Organisation recognises World Mental Health Day on this date every year. The overall objective of World Mental



Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilise efforts in support of mental health.

Here in school, we are continuing to support our pupils in various ways with their wellbeing and mental health.

We are running Mindfulness sessions for Year 7 students, led by Mindfulness expert Emily Bird. Pupils can access the Mindfulness resources on the school Website.

Here are several organisations that provide emotional support and practical advice for both teenagers and parents.

Family Lives is a charity specialising in families. You can call their confidential helpline on

0808 800 2222 (9am to 9pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 3pm Saturday to Sunday).

You can also visit their forums

<u>Young Minds</u> the mental health charity, has a dedicated, confidential helpline. Call them on 0808 802 5544 (9.30am to 4pm Monday to Friday)

<u>Relate</u> offers relationship advice and counselling. You can also use <u>Live Chat</u> to talk to a counsellor

<u>FRANK</u> the drugs charity, has comprehensive information about drugs. You can also call their helpline on 0300 123 6600 (available 24/7)

FOODBANK APPEAL

Central to our School's ethos is the notion of RESPECT. We aim to be a caring community, not only within the school, but in our outreach to the wider community of Cirencester and beyond. This year, perhaps more than any other, has shown all of us the importance of looking after each other. There has been a significant rise in the use of our local foodbank during the COVID pandemic. With this in mind, we would like to take the opportunity to support our local area by collecting for the Cirencester Food Bank Appeal. The Food Bank provides three days of nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are in crisis. More details about the organisation can be found on their web site:

https://cirencester.foodbank.org.uk/

Thank you all for your kind donations.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of parents and carer's in their support for the Cirencester Food Bank Appeal this term.

Mrs D Christopher

Senior Assistant Head







Get on your bike.....

In the New Year, we will be running our cycling proficiency course for Year 7 & 8 pupils.

Mr Stillman will be in touch with more information in the New Year.

Watch this space!



EXTEND IS ON THE WAY!

We will be starting our EXTEND programme after Christmas *

Letters have been sent out via ParentMail, with various options for each year group. Unless you hear from the school, your child will have a space on their chosen activity.







If you have any queries, please contact:
Mrs Sperti (EXTEND administrator)
rsperti@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk

Something to look forward to in the New Year!

^{* (}subject to current Government guidelines at the time)



Christmas Cookies



Ingredients

100 grams Unsalted Butter

(softened at room temperature)

100 grams Caster Sugar

1 Free-Range Egg (lightly beaten)

1 teaspoon Vanilla Extract

275 grams Plain Flour

400 grams Icing Sugar to decorate

4 tablespoons Water

3 drops Food Colourings Add Edible Glitter



Method

- 1. Preheat the oven to 190C/375F/Gas 5. Line a baking tray with greaseproof paper.
- 2. Cream the butter and sugar together in a bowl until pale, light and fluffy.
- 3. Beat in the egg and vanilla extract, a little at a time, until well combined.
- 4. Stir in the flour until the mixture comes together as a dough.
- 5. Roll the dough out on a lightly floured work surface to a thickness of 1cm/½in.
- 6. Using biscuit cutters or a glass, cut biscuits out of the dough and carefully place onto the baking tray. To make into Christmas tree decorations, carefully make a hole in the top of the biscuit using a straw.
- 7. Bake the biscuits for 8-10 minutes, or until pale golden-brown. Set aside to harden for 5 minutes, then cool on a wire rack.
- 8. For the icing, sift the icing sugar into a large mixing bowl and stir in enough water to create a smooth mixture. Stir in the food colouring.

 Carefully spread the icing onto the biscuits using a knife and sprinkle over the glitter. Set aside until the icing hardens.

Recipe from BBC Good food Guide



<u>Making a Snow Globe</u>



What you will need.

Screw-top jars
Miniature figures, such as ornaments and cake decorations
Artificial foliage
Clear bottle tops, optional
Epoxy adhesive
Distilled water
Glycerine



Position your figurine

Remove the lid from your jar and find out where you want to place your figurine.

Model it in different positions and try the jar over top. Once you have found the right pose, apply your adhesive sealant to the bottom of the figurine. Then, press the figurine down onto the lid, and hold it for about 2-5 seconds depending on the size.

Let it dry

It could take up to 24 hours, but check your glue packaging for drying times. Find a place to set it where it won't be disturbed. Make sure the figurine on your lid is nice and secure before proceeding.

Fill the jar with water.

Bottled water is ideal and will be clearer. Leave a little room at the top for glycerin, glitter and space for your figurine. Add the glycerin. Use a few drops to about a teaspoon, depending on how big your jar is.

Pour in some glitter. Using plastic glitter, sprinkle 1-2 teaspoons into the water.

Seal the lid.

Keeping the glass jar right side up, just place your lid onto the top of the jar, and seal it. If there's any extra water, it might leak a little, but that's okay. Turn it over gently and see if there are any leaks. Check for extra space at the top, too, and turn the jar back over and add a little more water if needed.

Shake it up.

Shake your snow globe gently and enjoy your lovely craft! Display.

www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Snow-Globe

SCHOOL CALENDAR—TERMS 3 & 4 2022

JANUARY

Tuesday 4th Return to school for Y7, Y10 and Y11

Wednesday 5th Return to school for Y8 and Y9

Friday 7th Year 7 First reports to parents

Monday 10th EXTEND Spring programme starts

Wednesday 19th Year 7 Parents' Evening, 4.30—7.30pm (online)

Wednesday 26th Year 11 Study Skills

FEBRUARY

Friday 4th Year 9 Second reports to parents

Wednesday 9th Year 9 Careers / Option Day

Friday 11th Year 10 Second reports to parents

Tuesday 15th Year 9 Parents' Evening (2)

FEBRUARY BREAK Monday 21st –25th February 2022

MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY— INSET DAY

MARCH

Wednesday 9th Year 9 Options Evening

Friday 11th Year 8 Second reports to parents

Thursday 17th Year 11 Final reports to parents

Friday 18th Year 9 Options form deadline

Wednesday 23rd Year 8 Parents' Evening (2)

Thursday 31st Year 11 Final Parents' Evening 4.30pm-7.30pm

SPRING HOLIDAY

Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April 2022

Year 11 Easter Revision

Thursday 21st April —Friday 22nd April 2022 (TBC)



















