



Letter from the Head 17/1/25

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a week where academic rigour in the classroom had dovetailed superbly with wonderful enrichment opportunities.

I want to give a special mention to our Year 8 and 9 students, who have approached their mid year assessments with great maturity and focus. Similarly, our Year 13 students have been sitting externally assessed exams this week, and their hard work and dedication have been impressive to see.

With the ski trip to Artesina, Italy rapidly approaching for our Year 10 and 11 students, the first dry slopes session took place on Monday at the Southampton Ski Centre, to provide students with an opportunity to develop their skills ahead of the trip. An enjoyable evening was had by all, which will benefit them greatly when they head to the Italian Alps.

On Wednesday, our sixth form students enjoyed a trip to Westminster and the privilege of a tour of the House of Parliament. Students were also lucky enough to benefit from a law making 'masterclass'. Also on Wednesday, Dr Yates took a group of aspiring chemists to the 'Top of the Bench' competition. A prestigious national competition that takes place each year at the University of Oxford. To conclude the week, on Friday, sixty GCSE and A-Level arts visited the Victoria and Albert and the Natural History museums for inspiration in preparation for their impending exams.

With trips and opportunities at the forefront this week, can I take this opportunity to remind parents of students' in Year 10 and 11 of the **28th February** deadline to sign up for the South Africa sports tour on MCAS. It looks like it will be a trip of a lifetime, and we want as many students' as possible to benefit from the opportunity. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Tregear or Mr Bale.

Looking forward, we are very excited for the upcoming performance of 'Matilda' and you should have received a letter this week from Mr Sutton in respect of the eagerly awaited shows at the start of February. Please book early to avoid disappointment, as based on the effort that has gone into rehearsals from the cast and staff, it looks set to be a wonderful occasion!

To finish, I would like to congratulate and wish the very best of fortune to Eleanor Sanders in Year 11 who is starring at the Corn Exchange this weekend in 'We will Rock you', a truly fantastic achievement.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Bale', written in a cursive style.

Headteacher