Dear Parents and Carers

Head's Bulletin

As we approach the end of a very busy first half term it is an exciting time for the school as our IT systems undergo an upgrade over the half term break. During this period no homework will be set on Frog, any homework that is set, will either be written in the student's book or a task sheet will be provided. As part of this work the students’ login details for the school network, Frog and their email account will need to change.

Please note that staff will not have access to emails from the end of school on Friday 25 October until Monday 4 November. If you do email staff during this time, your email will be received into their account, and they will respond after half term.

As a result of the IT upgrade, and in order to make sure that any issues are resolved as quickly as possible, students should return to school on Monday 4 November at 11.00am and should go straight to their tutor room. Normal lessons will continue from Period 3 onwards. Please refer to the Parent Bulletin for information on transport to school on Monday 4 November. If students have no other way to get into school by 11.00am, the Library will be open from 8.45am for them to sit quietly. Tutors will give students a card which will contain their new username and password.

Students will be responsible for their own login details, so it is important that they keep them safe and do not lose or forget them. Therefore, they will be advised to use their mobile phone to take a photograph of their username and password. If they don’t have a mobile phone, they can write it down somewhere private and secure (e.g. a diary/planner etc).

This half term we have seen a real improvement in the quality of the uniform in school. Whilst some may say uniform does not directly link to learning, studies do show that uniform standards and school performance are linked. I would like to thank you for your support with the uniform.

In the classroom, we have also seen our THINK strategies starting to take hold. Students and teachers are able to increase the level of challenge in the classroom by using these strategies. This level of challenge is enabling students to make more progress during the lesson and more importantly, remember more. We will build on these strategies over the coming years to ensure there is rapid school improvement.
Away from our incredible A-level and GCSE results this summer, we have also had some real success with our Year 10 early entry. Ninety of our current Year 11 sat their GCSE English exam a year early at the end of Year 10. Their progress, which put them in the top 25% of the country, was remarkable and we could not be more proud of their success.

On Thursday 3 October we held our Main School Open Evening. This event was an opportunity for us to showcase our school to prospective parents and their children. I was delighted to see so many of our students return to school to help and support such a successful evening. The feedback we received at the end of the evening was overwhelming and the students were a real credit to the school and themselves.

Last Friday the Partnership held its first joint INSET day. Over 300 employees from the Partnership secondary schools were at Three Rivers Academy for the day. The focus was improving our schools through greater challenge and metacognition. It was an incredible day and our external speaker, Will Ord, inspired us all to push our teaching that little bit further. For me it was a proud day to see just how engaged, motivated and positive Oxted staff were. It confirmed what I already know, how lucky we are to have them!

Our staff really do love getting positive feedback. If there is something that a member of staff at Oxted School has done which you are really happy with, please do let them know (thankstaff@oxtedschool.co.uk)

Your feedback is really important to us, and on our return from half term, we will be asking parents and carers to complete an online survey.

I would like to wish you and your families a very restful half term break.

With kind regards

Mr R Bond
Head of School

Don’t forget to buy your Tandridge Together Lottery Ticket!