

Secondary School

Katya Skoudy: Key Stage 4 Coordinator

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Dear Parents,

1st September 2015

Welcome to you all, I hope you have enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing break over the summer and feel ready to face a busy school year. As Key Stage 4 Coordinator, I will be monitoring the academic progress and social wellbeing of students in year 10 and 11 and I look forward to sharing a happy and productive school year with you and your child. Please keep in touch with us as the year progresses by contacting your child's form tutor whenever your child is ill or they have an appointment during school hours and remember my door is always open for your questions, especially those about your child's Cambridge IGCSE exams. Last year's cohort did fantastically well in their IGCSE exams and I hope that together, with your support, this year's cohort will achieve great results too.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind year 10 parents that your child may be entered for IGCSE English as a Second Language and/or IGCSE Mathematics this year. Please find attached the IGCSE booklet for this year with all important Key IGCSE dates, which can also be found on the school's webpage.

Should you wish your child be entered for a self-taught language, I would be grateful if you could let me know by filling in the form in the IGCSE booklet and return it to me as soon as possible and certainly by October 5th.

At the start of KS4, students are introduced to a new component to enable, foster and adopt creative learning strategies. This is CAS (Creativity, Action and Service), which is an important component of the International Baccalaureate programme. By becoming more active, developing their creative responses and encouraging them to become more involved in their community. We also hope to broaden their skills and interaction with others as well as giving them opportunities to develop their interests outside of their academic studies whilst asking the students to make more considered choices of their activities to make a balance of all three areas and to complete 50 hours throughout the year.

Naturally, reflections are of vital importance to evidence their learning while completing these activities so we introduce an online programme, www.edmodo.com which is an editable document for both students and teacher to access and to record these reflections.

Important dates for your Diary: Year 10 & 11

1. **Wednesday, September 23rd – Half day:** School will finish at 12 o'clock and buses will take students home before lunch.
2. **Wednesday, October 14th – Whole school sports day:** Students should wear house t-shirt and sport kit. All students are expected to participate in as many events as possible both on the track and the field. This is an event where students really get a chance to show what they are made of; strength of character, determination and team spirit are qualities universities and future employers are looking for and this is a great opportunity to develop these skills.



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3. **Tuesday November 2nd – IGCSE and IB information meeting:** IB subject choices meeting in the morning in the Theatre. Attendance at the meeting is essential for all year 11 going on to the IB Diploma Programme.
4. **Tuesday November 2nd (1pm – 6pm) - Parent Teacher Meetings:** Students will make appointments with their teachers so that you can discuss their progress in each subject.

IGCSE Entries

If your child is taking an IGCSE exam this year please make sure you have read the attached IGCSE booklet

5. **Wednesday, November 11th IGCSE Award Ceremony:** The presentation of the official certificates for IGCSEs sat in June 2015. This ceremony will be in the school theatre at 1:50 pm for all parents and students.
6. **Monday January 5th – 15th Mock Exams:** Teachers will use the mock examinations to finalise student entry in the IGCSE exams. Please encourage your child to start early with revision and organise their notes as we progress through the term.
7. **Monday January 18th -20th Year 10 Mid-year Exams:** This will help teachers assess how well students are coping with the IGCSE syllabi and course. Please encourage your child to start early with revision and organise their notes as we progress through the term.
8. **Thursday February 4th - (1pm – 6pm) - Parent Teacher Meetings**

Thank you for taking the time to read through all this information and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about your child's progress in Key Stage 4.

Yours faithfully,

Katya Skoudy
KS4 and IGCSE Coordinator

