

February 12th 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this correspondence finds you well. The college is now closed for half term and I would like to take this opportunity to say a sincere thank you to all the staff across the Trust who have worked tirelessly in new and often innovative ways to continue to provide opportunities for our learners. The engagement from students has continued to be excellent in challenging circumstances and we continue to be deeply impressed by our students and their commitment to their studies, even more so this year.

This half term has been very busy; we have developed our remote learning provision further and I am happy to report student engagement remains very strong. Our next steps online support sessions have been well attended by students and parents and carers, many of whom have commented on the high quality of the provision. I am thankful to Mrs Ashby (Head of Careers) and Mrs Stewart (UCAS and Higher Education Coordinator) for planning and delivering a wide range of sessions including, applying to university and higher education, understanding student finance, and information about higher and degree level apprenticeships. I am also grateful to many of the Trust alumni of students for continuing to support the college but contributing to these sessions and offering mentoring and guidance to our current students.

The extended UCAS deadline of 22nd January was met, with 198 applications sent. The complexity of writing references and working with students remotely has been a challenge, however the quality of the references and the willingness to embrace new ways of working have resulted in a record number of applications being sent. I am extremely grateful for the work of Mrs Stewart and the tutor team in achieving this remarkable goal. After half term, our attention turns to supporting eligible students with their applications for the Connolly Foundation and Harper Trust bursaries and this work will be led by Mrs Ashby (Connolly Foundation Coordinator).

During this half term our students have completed an enormous amount of learning in their subjects. Our curriculum overview for the next half term for each year group can be found on our website or by clicking on the hyperlinks below. This provides you with an overview for the next half term of what your child will be learning in each subject they are studying.

[Curriculum overview Year 12](#)

[Curriculum overview Year 13](#)

Additionally, for Year 13 there is a Year 13 Assessment overview for their upcoming assessments. This document provides details of the assessment that is being undertaken and a reminder of the exam board for each subject. Further details of these Year 13 assessments will be available on Show My Homework and Teams.

[Assessment overview Year 13](#)



Key dates for the next half term

Year 13

- Assessment week, this is in the week commencing 22nd February.
- Grade sheet to be sent home to parents and carers week commencing 22nd March.
- Raising awareness of scholarships and bursaries schemes launch event, 9th March. More details to follow after half term.

Year 12

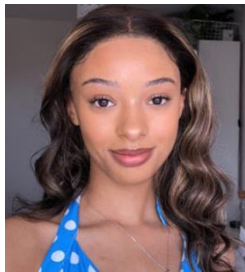
- Online parent/carer consultation event 24th February. Guidance on how to book an appointment slot has been shared in correspondence earlier this week.
- An introduction to student finance and raising awareness of scholarships and bursaries schemes, 9th March. More details to follow, after half term.

Laptops: We are again very grateful to the High Sherriff of Bedford for funding an extra 10 Chromebooks for the college, these have already been distributed to those students most in need. To request digital device support for your child, please email ngenders@wootton.beds.sch.uk

ClassCharts:

A reminder that we have issued login details for all Parents, Carers, and student for ClassCharts. This resource will allow you to view your child's attitude to learning (ATL) data (including attendance) for each live lesson that they have attended since Monday 8th February 2021. Once we return to college, ClassCharts will also allow you to view your child's ATL for any lesson that they attend, plus any additional involvement in extra-curricular events or contributions to life at the college. If you have not received this information, please email classcharts@wootton.beds.sch.uk

Update from Kimberley College Presidents – Prabhjot Kaur and Jacy Uko:



Student Leadership: We have had two exciting student leadership meetings this half term and have several projects that are beginning to take shape.

- Project 1: **Sympathy Card** for the passing of Captain Sir Tom Moore: We currently have one of our Y12 Art students designing a card for Captain Tom's Family with lots of individual messages from our students.
- Project 2: **Postcards of Kindness:** We have a group of students who are writing to our local NHS establishments & care homes to say thank you for all that they have been doing during the pandemic.
- Project 3: **Student Leadership Baking Club;** instead of our usual Student Leadership Meeting, we have decided to get together to do some virtual baking instead. We also have plans for other extracurricular activities such as a Debate Club and a Karaoke Zoom!



Bedford Member of Youth Parliament:

Y12 Student Jamaal Otieno is one of 19 students from across the county who has been canvassing for this role, we are looking forward to hearing how successful his campaign has been and no-matter what we are very proud of his accomplishments, he is a hugely valued member of our student leadership team.

Student Photography:



Thank you to Y12 Photography and Art Student - Benjamin Stacey for capturing some beautiful snow scenes earlier this term.

Finally, I hope that all staff and students take the opportunity to rest and step away from screens over the half term holiday. Remember that it is important to stay at home unless it is vital to go out, and to continue to follow all the guidelines in terms of handwashing, distancing, and face coverings.

Please continue to use the dedicated email address: covid19@wootton.beds.sch.uk to let us know if your child tests positive for COVID-19. Staff will be monitoring this for the first two days of the break, and then as the college reopens on Monday 22 February.

Wishing all our families a safe and restful break.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Detheridge
Head of College
Kimberley Sixth Form College