

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## Letter Number 2 – Years 10 - 13

Dear Parents/Carers,

A belated Happy New Year, I hope you received the Civitas Magazine and read the many highlights of last term.

House Charity week was undoubtedly one of the highlights of Autumn 2 with some amazing events which I hope you read about in the magazine. In total, after a fantastic effort by our students and staff we raised

**£4,427.78**

House	TOTAL	Charity
Curie	£1,171.80	UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency
Newton	£403.71	CLIC Sargent for Children with Cancer
Plato and Plato Just Giving Page	£856.21 £1,270	Muir Maxwell The Epilepsy Trust for Children and Families
Socrates	£726.06	WaterAid

I would also like to congratulate:-

**Curie – Noreen Alaswad**

**Newton – Gayathri Sajeendra and Roshan Patel**

**Plato – Bano Ahmed**

**Socrates – Mezdha Afzali**

who received our fundraiser awards at our end of term celebration assembly for their fantastic efforts on behalf of their houses.

Plato House also showed true Civitas by raising £600 to host a lovely Christmas meal for some of our senior citizens who would be alone on Christmas Day, the students were amazing! (Please see our website)

### MOCKS AND AUTUMN 2 ASSESSMENTS

We have now completed a very intense period of assessments and mock exams. I have, with my staff, been reviewing the outcomes and looking at what needs to happen to improve students' grades. As you will know from the reports home, outcomes have been mixed and in some cases very worrying.

### For Year 13

Many students have now received exciting but demanding offers from universities. There, surely, can be no greater incentive to get focussed and work hard than this? To date we have 54 students

who have made university applications and who are currently holding 131 offers. Unfortunately, there are many students who hold good offers who have achieved grades too low to achieve these places. How will they feel if they do not achieve their offer in August?

**YEAR 12** are also repeating this pattern with too many attaining U/E grades. Many of Year 12 have yet to accept the amount of hard work necessary to not only gain a place in higher education but in some cases maintain their place in the sixth form.

I know Ms Keane, her senior team and tutors have organised many student and parent meetings in order to map the best way forward. There are some hard decisions to be made.

### **YEAR 11**

Of course the goal for our GCSE students is to obtain a good sixth form place. We also know statistically that students who attend a sixth form are **30% more likely to get a university place than those who go to college.**

**The Year 11 mocks** have produced some green shoots and there are signs that students realise how serious the next few months are. Congratulations to approximately 60% of Year 11 who have made positive progress but there are far too many who should be making positive progress who have yet to do so.

Sixth form places require a pass in English and maths and there are still too many students who are not yet passing one or both. Again about 40% need to significantly up their game if they are to achieve a quality post 16 place.

Our students in all exam year groups have received considerable holiday work to help rectify the mistakes/gaps in their mocks/assessments. It is vital that this work has been approached seriously and with effort. The only way forward is to learn from our mistakes and to do things differently in order to get a better outcome.

Two very important dates loom that **all parents are required to attend** in order to **sign off** the final **GCSE and A/S, A Level entries**. I cannot stress how vital it is for at least one parent to attend these evenings.

**Year 11 – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Year 12 and 13 – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

### **Applications to sixth form**

We will be hosting **two Saturday mornings** when we'll be interviewing potential sixth formers. These are **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January** and **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February** – we will be in touch with your son/daughter to make a secure appointment time. It is important that any student even thinking about sixth form needs to apply and have an interview even if they are also applying elsewhere.

**Study support for Years 10 and 11 starts on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January** the timetable has changed from autumn term and staff have identified students in both 10 and 11 who would really benefit from attending. Other students are of course welcome to attend.

### Year 10 Study Support Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Spring term	Drama History	Science	MFL Media English	DT - FD, TX, GD, & RM
	Independent study support – A quiet room with internet access for optional independent study			

### Year 11 Study Support Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Spring term	Maths Art	RE Business	English IT	Music Geography
	Independent study support – A quiet room with internet access for optional independent study			

Whilst our staff, both teachers and LSA's, do everything they can to support, help and encourage all students to improve their grades and their life choices, we need your support in ensuring that they do not waste these vital last few months and live to regret it. Again without your son/daughter putting in the required hours of independent study they will not achieve the results they are capable of. I am loathed to quote hours, but I will do so.

- **All Year 10 and 11 students** should be completing 3 hours of independent study a night (homework, reviewing work they didn't understand, revising previous work from Year 10, revising units for upcoming internal tests, practising past papers or questions) these hours will increase for Year 11 as mock 2 approaches. Meanwhile Year 10 cannot afford to achieve the grades of Christmas in the next set of assessments.
- **Years 12** students now know that each AS subject requires at least 5 hours of independent study a week, that is 20 hours in addition to their lessons. Yes they think it is a lot, but the standard is high and those students achieving A\*-C grades will tell you that is what is necessary.
- **Year 13** – the same, of course holds true for Year 13 except that they need to put in an additional minimum 6 hours per week for each subject.

### There are no short cuts!

Spring Term is not a long one, but a hopeful one of increasing light and renewed energy and the final mocks that will really indicate what the August results will be, begin on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017**.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the coming exam entry evenings,

with my best wishes

**Delia Smith**  
Principal

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science <b>STEM Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Science <b>Experiment Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Reading <b>Lexia</b> <i>Year 7</i>	Science <b>Ark Alive</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Drama <b>Drama Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>
Library <b>Book Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Science <b>Forensic Science Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	DT <b>DT Club</b> <i>Years 8, 9</i>	Maths <b>Chess Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	PE <b>Y7 Boys Football</b> <i>Year 7</i>
Music <b>Junior Choir</b> <i>Year 7</i>	English <b>Film Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Year 9 <b>Glow Club</b> <i>Year 9</i>	Music <b>Senior Choir</b> <i>Years 8, 9, 10, 11</i>	PE <b>Y8 Boys Football</b> <i>Year 8</i>
Music <b>Music Tech</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	English <b>Debating Club</b> <i>7, 8, 9, 10, 11</i>	PE <b>Senior Boys Basketball</b> <i>Years 12, 13</i>	North London Citizens <b>NLC</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</i>	PE <b>Basketball Fun</b> <i>Year 9</i>
PE <b>Girls Football Fun Y8-10</b> <i>Years 8, 9, 10</i>	Music <b>Samba Band</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	PE <b>Senior Boys Football</b> <i>Years 12, 13</i>	PE <b>KS3 Girls Hockey</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	Duke of Edinburgh <b>D of E</b> <i>Year 10</i>
PE <b>Y7 Boys Basketball</b> <i>Year 7</i>	Music <b>Rock Band</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11</i>	PE <b>KS3 Boys Rugby</b> <i>Years 8, 9</i>	PE <b>KS3 Fitness Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	
	Maths <b>Maths Challenge Y7</b> <i>Year 7</i>		PE <b>Serge Betsen Football</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	
	Maths <b>Maths Challenge Y8 &amp; Y9</b> <i>Years 8, 9</i>		Art/Maths/DT <b>Craft Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>	
	Art <b>Art Club</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>			
	PE <b>Y7 Girls Football Fun</b> <i>Year 7</i>			
	PE <b>Y8&amp;9 Boys Basketball</b> <i>Years 8, 9</i>			
	PE <b>Serge Betsen Rugby</b> <i>Years 7, 8, 9</i>			