



4th October 2017

Dear parents,

The Sponsored Walk last week was a great success with virtually all the pupils completing the course. There was a tremendous sense of achievement from those who finished, particularly given the wet start and heavy conditions underfoot. I am very grateful to Mr Panting, Mrs Stone and all the other members of staff and parent helpers who made this possible. I was greatly touched that a member of the public who came into contact with the pupils donated £10 saying that it was a result of the respect and politeness of the Ashcombe pupils she had encountered. The fund-raising has made a very good start with over £11000 donated towards the cost of the new school minibus. Donations can still be made at www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/ashcombe-trust/minibus-appeal Pupils who have filled in the sponsor form need to hand in their money (in a sealed envelope please) to the Pupil Services Desk.

Career Talks

Jo Carroll, our Careers Advisor, has developed a series of career months this year. To accompany this, Jo has a series of talks for pupils to outline career options in a set area. The talks will take place from 1:25pm - 1.45pm in S5. The specific dates are:

- Medicine - Tuesday 17th October
- Finance - Tuesday 14th November
- Law - Tuesday 12th December

Extra-curricular Activities

All pupils should have received an extra-curricular timetable detailing the range of activities available in school. The information can also be found on the website at <http://www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk/04-info/docs/09-17/2017-18%20Autumn%20Ex%20Cur%20Activities%20bklt.pdf>

There have been extremely high attendance rates with some evenings attracting over 100 pupils from all year groups, particularly for basketball and girls' football. The clubs are open to all and pupils can join at any time.

Sport Update

The Year 11 Boys' and U14 Girls' football teams made a good start in the County Cup fixtures. Year 11 and Year 9 netball began with a winning start against Priory and Year 9 Boys' rugby opened with a strong win 42-7. The next few weeks see many English Schools' fixtures, rugby festivals for U12, U14 and U12/13 girls as well as league matches starting for netball.



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INSET Day and Open evening

The school will be closed for pupils on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th October for INSET. The school's Open Evening takes place on the evening of 12th October and we always encourage pupils to volunteer to help with the event either as helpers with subject displays or as guides. Pupils who are interested in volunteering as guides should see Mr Ketley or Mr Simmonds.

Into the 6th

The Into the 6th Evening takes place on Wednesday 18th October. The evening runs from 6:30pm to 8:30pm and there will be a presentation about the 6th Form and the Choice Process at 7:15pm in Ranmore Hall. Year 11 pupils will receive a specific letter with details of the evening.

Year 7 Parent - Tutor and Information evening

We are looking forward to meeting parents of Year 7 pupils on Tuesday 31st October from 6pm onwards. There was a specific letter from Mr Simmonds today, and then parents should receive an appointment letter by Monday 30th October at the latest. This evening is for parents only but should you bring your child, we will be showing a DVD in R14.

Uniform

We have been really pleased with the way in which the majority of pupils have returned to school in the correct uniform. Thank you for your support. We are continuing to contact parents and take action with pupils who are wearing the incorrect length skirt, incorrect shoes or, in a few cases, those who have the wrong trousers. We would also like to stress that pupils need to bring blazers to school every day and that hoodies are not allowed as an alternative. Please refer to the uniform list on the website or see the summary in your child's planner for further details if required.

"School of Rock"

Rehearsals for the November production of the "School of Rock" have begun really well. We have been thrilled with the dedication and enthusiasm of the cast and are looking forward to a really exciting show. Please look out for information on tickets coming soon, and put the show dates in your diary: 9th, 10th & 11th November.

Term dates

We finish for half-term on Friday 20th October at 3.30pm. The new half-term will start on Monday 30th October at 8.55am.

Thank you as ever for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



D.J. Blow
Headteacher