



June 2019

Dear parents,

The external exams are approaching their culmination and the pupils deserve great credit for the way they have engaged with them. The Year 11 revision timetable has been extremely well attended and the attitude of the year group has been superb. We would also like to praise the exceptional manner in which the 6th form have embraced the challenges posed by this intensive examination period.

Festival of Music

There are many exciting events coming up in the Festival of Music, which will take place at the end of June. In particular, we wanted to highlight two concerts to which all are welcome to attend:

- Thursday 27th June at 6pm in Ranmore Hall - Summer Soiree, consisting of performances from all the music ensembles
- Wednesday 3rd July at 6pm in the BPA - KS3 Concert, consisting of performers from the inter-house music festival

Normandy Visit

A group of around 150 Year 8 pupils are visiting Normandy this week. This is the start of a series of trips that are taking place over the half term, including:

- China Exchange
- Uganda and Build Africa
- Year 7 Germany
- 6th form visit to Rumania
- Duke of Edinburgh

We are also about to start advertising for a selection of visits for 2019-20, including the exchange programme with Germany and France. As a school, we hope that each pupil will experience at least one overseas trip.

Sixth Form Induction Day – Wednesday 19th June

The Sixth Form Induction course is on Wednesday 19th June and starts at 9.30am in the Ranmore Hall. Ashcombe pupils will be able to hand in their Year 11 books before the day starts in the Ranmore Hall. The day will provide you with a taste of life in the 6th form and allow you to experience the subjects you have chosen for A Level. There will be a social event in the evening from 6.30pm – 8.30pm in the Sixth Form Block. The cost of the event is £2.50 and tickets can be purchased on the evening.

Year 10 Careers Information Evening

This will take place at 6.00pm on Thursday 13th June. This is the same evening as the Year 10 Boat Trip. The evening is for parents and gives them an overview of the various career pathways that are available. We have staged this event for a number of years; it offers an opportunity to reflect on the most appropriate and inspiring options for your son/daughter. The talk will last around 45 minutes and will be delivered by Mr Panting. We will send specific details in a letter to Year 10 parents regarding the event.

Lower 6th Parent Support Evening

Mr Blackband hosted a parent support evening for Lower 6th parents on Monday. This talk reinforces the Summer Programme, which started immediately after half term. The presentation provided parents with



Executive Headteacher: D. J. Blow, M.A.
Ashcombe Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1LY
Tel: 01306 886312
www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk
info@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk



SESSET

an opportunity to learn about the various pathways that are available to all pupils once they have completed their A Levels in June 2020. Topics covered included: UCAS, pupil finance, Unifrog, Apprenticeships, School Leaver Programmes and Gap Years.

Sporting Success

Congratulations to Felix Vaughan, Sam Wheeler, Hayden Gale, Oscar Curry and Jason Phillips who have been selected to represent Central Surrey at the Surrey Schools athletics competition.

Staffing

Year 9 have returned after half term as part of the 'Upper School. Ms Gray has therefore taken over pastoral responsibilities from Mr Ravenhill.

We wish Mrs Palmer (Head of Year 10) well who will be starting her maternity leave this week. Mr Prior (who is currently Head of Year 11) will be taking over responsibility for the year group when Mrs Palmer leaves. Mr Prior can be contacted on prior.stuart@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk

Careers Speed Dating and the Careers Fair

As mentioned in the previous letter, we have developed a range of careers opportunities to introduce our pupils to as diverse a range of professions as possible. Research suggests that this is one of the key ingredients behind an aspirational and fulfilling career pathway. We are currently seeking volunteers for:

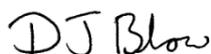
- a) The Careers Speed Dating event on Friday 19th July from 9.15am to 12pm.
- b) The annual Careers Fair on Monday 16th September from 6pm to 8pm.

Everyone is welcome, as the key aims for us are diversity and range. Please contact me on panting.chris@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk if you are able to help with either event.

Teacher Training at Ashcombe

Many people are not aware that we train new teachers at The Ashcombe as part of the partnership with The Warwick School and other local schools. We are always interested in hearing from anyone who is keen on developing a teaching career and we would particularly encourage ex-Ashcombe pupils to get in touch. There are a number of financial benefits available to support this process, and the school is an excellent place to start teaching. Please contact Miss Parish on parish.joanna@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk if you would like further information about the opportunities available.

Yours sincerely,



D.J. Blow
Executive Headteacher



C.G. Panting



Mrs A.S Reed

Joint Heads of School