Parent, Family and Community Briefing

Friday 1st December 2023





Year 11's Consultation Evening

On Wednesday evening this week it was pleasure to see our families back into the College for our first Parent and Family Consultation Evening with our subject teachers. The evening was split

into two halves; the first half consisted of an online option for families to speak with teachers, then the second half were face to face meetings within the College. The evening was an opportunity to review pupils' progress in Year 11, the recent Year 11 mock results and discuss the next steps in learning.

We are really proud of our Year 11 pupils as they are working hard to complete their course content as they prepare for our second series of mock exams in the New Year.

Here are some key dates for our Year 11 families during the coming two months.

- Friday 15th December 2023 Christmas Break
- Wednesday 3rd January 2024 All pupils return for the start of Spring Term 2024
- Thursday 4th January 2024 6pm to 7.30pm Year 11 Parent/Families & Pupil - Exam Preparation Evening. The focus of this evening will be:

1. Building a revision timetable for the upcoming mock exams. This will be delivered in workshops with staff, pupils and families working together.

2. Promoting wellbeing and health during the exams. Advice and guidance on how to promote wellbeing for pupils leading up to, and during the exams/mock exams period.

- Thursday 18th January 2024 9am to 11am -Year 11 Photos - Whole Year group photo and final individual photos. These will be available for you to purchase.
- Wednesday 24th January to Friday 10th February 2024 - Year 11 second series of mock exams.
- Catch up exams for any missed exams will be scheduled for the week after February Half Term.

Thank-you to all families for your continued partnership as we work together to support our Year 11 pupils during this academic year.

Festive Food Support for Families

As we approach what can be an even more financially challenging time of year for families, the following may be of help and support to you.

-Foodbanks

- Okehampton Foodbank <u>www.</u> <u>okehamptonfoodbank.co.uk</u> Baptist Church, Fore Street. Will help anyone in need for 2 weeks but will then need a referral. Pastoral staff in school can complete a referral.
- Okehampton Community Kitchen (contactable on Facebook) 3, East Street.
- Chagford Eco Pantry and Foodbank, St Michael's Church and the Primary School, Chagford. Confidential phone number: 07444 598279. Food, hampers, Christmas presents.
- North Tawton Community Fridge and Larder, Merry Go Round, 6, Market Street, North Tawton.

-Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)

For those families in receipt of Free School Meals, there are four days of HAF provision running over the school Christmas break. If eligible, you will have received a booking code from school to book children on to this should you wish. Each session is at least 4 hours of activities and includes a free hot meal. There is a range of activities available to choose from, along with booking links here:

HAF providers map - Winter 2023 – Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)



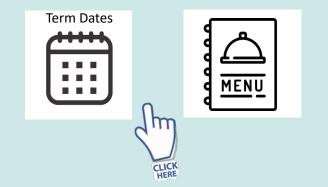
Principal's Oke 8 Champion Awards

Congratulations to Abegail Valder in Year 9 who has been awarded the Oke 8 Principals Award this week for going out of her way to be KIND to everyone within the college. Well done Abegail.



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USEFUL LINKS



Please click on these icons to view the 2024 – 2025 Term Dates and also the Okehampton College canteen menu for next week. Alternatively visit our website;

www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

KEY DATES

- Wednesday 6th December 2023 and Thursday 7th December 2023 – DMAT Careers Fair at Ashbury Golf Club.
- Tuesday 12th December 2023 Drama Club Panto Performance - Octagon
- Thursday 14th December 2023 Christmas Concert in the Sports Hall.
- Friday 15th December 2023 End of School Term.
 The day will finish at 1.30pm for students. Buses will run as usual but earlier.
- Tuesday 2nd January 2024 Staff INSET Day.
- Wednesday 3rd January 2024 Students return to College.
- Thursday 4th 25th January 2024 Futuresmart Careers appointments for all Year 11s.



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