

23 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past week has been exceptionally busy, with Year 11 mock exams, educational trips to Hilbre Island, and hosting external visitors. The visit from Ofsted was generally a positive experience, and while I am unable to provide specific details at this time, I am confident that we can build on our success and make the school an outstanding place to learn. The team were extremely complimentary about our students, particularly highlighting their positive behaviour and relationships with staff. We are extremely proud of our students; they were a credit to themselves, their families, the school and the community of Birkenhead.

I am also pleased to share that our Year 11 students demonstrated remarkable ambition and resilience during the mock exams. Our staff and external invigilators commented on their focus and hard work in every exam.

### **Learning Habit: Attendance and Punctuality**

I want to emphasise, once again, the importance of attendance and punctuality in the pursuit of academic success. As I have reiterated in a previous letter, attendance remains our top priority. The link between good school attendance and positive outcomes is undeniable, often contributing to a successful and fulfilling life for our students. Our students habitually hear from staff that good attendance leads to good outcomes, which can lead to a happy life.

To further demonstrate this commitment, from November 20th to December 22nd, we are encouraging and celebrating 100% weekly attendance with a selection of prizes. I believe that instilling these habits will lay the foundation for academic success.

### **Year 10 Mock Exams - week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Further to Miss Clarke's letter, Year 10 students continue to work really hard in lessons, and the intervention offer includes our amazing Saturday school masterclasses to prepare students for the upcoming mock exams. All extra sessions are planned and delivered to support students to make even more progress in a subject area and are specifically tailored to their needs.

### **Parents' Evening**

I am delighted to share the date for your child's Parents' Evening. For each year group, more detailed arrangements will be sent to you in the coming weeks. The timing of each event will be 4:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Date</b>
11	Thursday 7 December
10	Thursday 11 January
9	Thursday 25 January
8	Thursday 8 February
7	Thursday 29 February

## **Duke of Edinburgh Award Year 9**

Following the success of our 2023 DofE cohort, I am delighted to share that Mr. Artell spoke to Year 9 students in assembly this week to launch our 2024 cohort. The DofE Award is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, have fun with friends, develop leadership skills, and achieve an internationally renowned award. For further information on this amazing opportunity, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Artell at:

[art@birkenheadparkschool.com](mailto:art@birkenheadparkschool.com)

## **End of Day arrangements**

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our staff and students, we are implementing a slight adjustment to our end of day plans.

Starting Monday, November 27, we kindly request that all parents and carers pick up their children from the small gate next to the staff car park. This will allow you to easily identify your child from the other 750 children who are leaving at the same time. To facilitate a smooth process, our staff will guide parents and students to this designated area at the end of each school day. If you have any questions regarding this change, please do not hesitate to contact your child's year leader.

## **Download class charts and support**

To help you stay informed about your child's progress, we encourage you to download Class Charts, our online tool for tracking homework, behaviour, and achievement. This valuable resource will help you stay engaged in your child's education and provide the support they need. Please contact Mrs Thomas for your log in code.

[sth@birkenheadparkschool.com](mailto:sth@birkenheadparkschool.com)

## **Access to Toilets**

In order to maximise learning time, students will be able to access toilets before school, during breaks, and during lunchtime. However, only students with a valid medical pass will be permitted to use the toilet during school transitions and lesson time. We are currently working on the process for valid medical passes, and any families that this impacts will have received a letter from Ms. Weekes.

Thank you for your support, together, as a school community we can build on our successes.

Best wishes,



Peter Mee

Head of School