16 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my previous correspondence, I am now in a position to let you know that the three NEU strike days, scheduled for the 22nd, 27th and 29th November have now been cancelled and school will be open to all students on these days as usual. I am very pleased that this means that students are not missing any further lessons and that the rhythm of school life can continue to provide stability and security for them. Your support over the past few weeks is much appreciated. Thank you.

There is much evidence that good communication between home and school supports young people in making good progress at school. It is very encouraging, therefore, that so many of our parents are good at letting us know their concerns and working with us to resolve issues. Our staff do their very best to respond to emails promptly and to organise meetings where appropriate. Just a short note on this please, though – in order to encourage a sensible work-life balance, I do not expect staff to read or respond to emails outside of the normal working day.

I am looking forward to seeing all of the parents of Year 11 on Tuesday at the Year 11 Parent Evening. You will receive very up to date assessment data and can use this to find out more about how to support your child as they prepare for the Mock Exams, which are at the end of this term. This is likely to be a very busy evening – we have 230 students in Year 11 – but I know that staff will do their very best to see everyone who wants to see them. If you know that you will need longer with a member of staff than the basic 5 minutes, please could you arrange an additional meeting with that person on another occasion, so that the flow of parents through their appointments is not held up. Many thanks.

On the whole, most of our students wear their full school uniform to school each day and look great. Thank you for your support with this. We have, however, seen some slippage in some areas over the past few weeks and I thought it worth a general reminder to all families about our expectations:

Outdoor coats – we expect students to take these off when inside the building and to be wearing their blazer indoors. Blazers can be taken off in lessons, but we do expect them to be worn when not in a classroom.

Skirts – should be at knee length and not rolled up at the waistband to make them shorter!

Trousers – do not include leggings, black jeans, skin tight designs etc.

Ties – need to be worn at all times, but should also be the right colour for the year group.

Shoes - and not trainers should be worn when inside the building.
To mark World Prematurity Day on 17th November, the Libraries are collecting picture books to donate to the Neonatal Unit at the Evelina Children’s Hospital. The parents of premature babies are often limited with the care that they can give, so we would like to donate the books to help give them another way to bond with their little ones. If anyone has any old picture books they would be willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Libraries directly if you have any further questions.

Lastly, I would like to thank the John Roan parents association (JRSA) who work tirelessly to support the school and its students. The JRSA have published the minutes of their last meeting in the JRSA section of the school website. Do take a few moments to read about their discussions if you can. This is an important association that provides a good way for parents to liaise with the school on general matters, as well as time to discuss how to raise additional funds for the school through social activities. At the last meeting, there was much discussion about how parents can get more actively involved in supporting the school as it improves. To this end, there is a message from the JRSA requesting more support at the end of this newsletter.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
Message from Jemma Clark, Deputy Headteacher

Excellent punctuality is an essential factor in a successful education. It is statistically proven that students who are prepared and on time for learning have a more fruitful and enjoyable learning experience. Where punctuality is a concern, this can cause disruption to the start of lessons, and therefore interrupt the learning of other students.

The pastoral teams are working hard to ensure our students are in school and arrive to lessons on time, and are prepared for learning. A revised punctuality improvement plan has been produced to encourage all our students to reflect on their own punctuality. We would really appreciate the support of parents to ensure their child is on time for school and to have positive conversations with those that punctuality has been identified as a concern.

For clarity, the school day starts at 8.30am. Students are expected to be ready to learn and in their Tutor Room by this time. Failure to be in the Tutor Room by 8.30am will be classed as late. To provide sufficient time for students to travel from the school gate to their Tutor Room, any student arriving at the school gate from 8.28am will be marked as late.

Where a student receives a late mark, this will mean an automatic 20 minute detention at the end of the school day. Where students receive more than one late per week, this will result in a 40 minute detention after school on Friday. Parents will be notified in advance.

The pastoral team will carefully monitor students who are late. Where students are regularly late, parents will be invited into the school to participate in a punctuality improvement contact meeting. This will look at the barriers to punctuality, and provide a plan of support to allow the student to improve. Where punctuality persists, students will receive sanctions in line with the school behaviour policy.

The John Roan values the support of parents and the opportunity to work as a team in supporting our students to make positive choices and therefore have valuable experiences. If you require further information or have concerns regarding your child’s punctuality please contact the school.

Please find attached to this newsletter a poster entitled ‘What children need to know about online bullying’, which I trust you will share with your son/daughter and find both enlightening and useful.

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 November 2018</td>
<td>Year 11 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
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## PARENTS EVENINGS 2018/19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 January 2019</td>
<td>Year 9 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 February 2019</td>
<td>Year 8 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 February 2019</td>
<td>Post 16 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>02 April 2019</td>
<td>Year 7 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>02 May 2019</td>
<td>Year 10 Parents’ Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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## AUTUMN TERM

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 November 2018</td>
<td>Post 16 Open Evening</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 November 2018</td>
<td>PRIDE Day</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
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<td>3 December 2018</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks WEEK</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
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<td>6 December 2018</td>
<td>Ski Trip Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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<td>10 December 2018</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks WEEK</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 December 2018</td>
<td>Celebration of Achievement Eve</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
<td>9.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 December 2018</td>
<td><strong>LAST DAY OF TERM</strong></td>
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News from the Guidance and Achievement Leaders

Year 7  Ms Causer  JCAUSER@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

This week the Year 7’s have been learning about Autism. The assembly this week was designed by one of our wonderful Year 8 students, Kiera, and supported by Ms Ling, who is in charge of our DSP Unit. It was very educational and interesting finding out about Autism and how students with Autism feel during certain situations. I think the Year 7’s showed great attention to what they were being told and left with a new understanding of how Autism can affect their peers.

The new late procedures and detentions for students who are late has gone very smoothly this first week. I can already see the impact the new system is having as a deterrent, and for getting students into school and sat in their classes at 8.30am. Thank you to all parents who have helped and continue to ensure all students are arriving to school on time.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Over a school year:</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 minutes late each day</td>
<td>= 3 days lost</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 minutes late each day</td>
<td>= 6.5 days lost</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 minutes late each day</td>
<td>= 10 days lost</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 minutes late each day</td>
<td>= 13 days lost</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 minutes late each day</td>
<td>= 19 days lost</td>
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Finally, could I please ask that if your contact details - phone numbers or addresses - have changed since your son/daughter has arrived at The John Roan, that you inform us at your earliest convenience please, so that we are able to contact you in the case of an emergency. We have a number of contact numbers on file that are no longer working.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Causer, Year 7 GAL

Year 8  Mr Duncan  eduncan@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

I am hugely impressed by the change in atmosphere around our Maze Hill site. Our Year 8s are really starting to pull together and in the same direction. I am so proud of our year group and the recent improvement has really blown me away.

We have our first trip coming up Tuesday, 4th December. A week later, we will also be running a Rewards Trip, which I'll explain in more detail next week.

We also have our first full School Council meeting. Next week, we will make decisions on who will be elected as our two main Council Reps for our year group. All of our Student Council Reps will write a speech as to why they feel they should be elected.

I would also like to highlight that a few of our Year 8 students will be placed on Tutor Report. Your child's Form Tutor will make contact to inform you that your child has been placed onto a Tutor Report Card. This is to track our students’ behaviour and performance during each lesson. If your child has a cross on any of the targets, they will complete a 10 minute detention on the day for each cross they receive.
Lastly, if there is anything you would like me to bring to your attention in these Parent Newsletters, please do get in touch.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Mr Duncan, Year 8 GAL

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**Year 9**  Ms Smith  asmith@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

This week has been a great week for Year 9, with academic achievement points being awarded for outstanding work and/or effort. For example, on Thursday alone, three hundred and five achievement points were awarded to Year 9 students – an incredible achievement. So keep up the great work Year 9.

We are having a major focus on punctuality at the moment. From now onwards, the main gate will be closing at twenty-eight minutes past eight and any student turning up at the school gate after that time would not be able to be in their Tutor base by 08.30. Any student who is not in their Tutor base by 08.30 will receive a late mark. We want a prompt start to the school day so that the students can benefit fully from their registration programme and have a calm, focussed and productive preparation for learning and making lots of progress during the school day.

Members of Year 9 will be taking part in a special Year 7 assembly on Wednesday, 21st November to promote our Debate Mate Club to our new year group; many of whom have joined already. Year 8 and Year 9 students will deliver a show debate, before those members of the club who became national champions in May of this year are presented with their trophy and medals presented by members of The John Roan Foundation, who kindly sponsor our membership of Debate Mate.

I hope you have a great weekend.

With best wishes, Mrs Angie Smith, Year 9 GAL

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**Year 10**  Mr Thomas  lthomas@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

I would like to start by congratulating the Year 10 boy’s football for their conducting themselves as sportsmen and true gents in their recent game against Crown Woods. The boys had a great result in the game as they won 5-0 away to Crown Woods.

PRIDE DAY 2 is fast approaching and I will be able to fully inform you of the plans for the day next week, but it will involve members of staff and undergraduates coming in from Goldsmiths University to speak with Year 10 concerning university, as well as making a start on plans for work experience next July.

Absence procedure – I would like to remind you that you are required to contact the attendance office for each day your child may be absent from school. You can do this either by e-mailing absence@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk or by calling 020-8516 7558. Medical evidence may be required to authorise the absence if your child has previously had too many absences.

Homework is becoming a serious concern amongst Year 10s. I am receiving a lot of behaviour logs from teachers in regards to a lack of homework from a significant number of Year 10s. As you are aware, homework is logged on show my homework (SMH) as well as each student
recording their homework in their planners. Parents were also provided with login details for SMH so that they could check which homework has been issued.

Homework plays an integral part in student progress, as it is an extension of classwork and allows students to demonstrate independent learning and understanding of key concepts/topics. Students who regularly complete homework, and to a high standard, make more progress in school than students who do not do so. Please may I ask for your assistance again in checking that you child is completing any homework issued but also doing the homework to a high standard and not merely rushing it and producing work of poor/low quality.

On Tuesday, during our weekly assembly, I gave a presentation to Year 10s detailing the link between attendance to school, attainment and attitude to learning. During the assembly I outlined the positive correlation between attendance and attainment using some research data I came across a few years ago, such as the fact that students with an average attendance of 95% or higher have an 8 out of 10 chance of attaining 5 or more good GCSE grades (what used to be A*-C grades) and students with an average attendance of 80% or less only have a 2 out of 10 chance of doing the same.

The data above shows the very strong link between attendance and attainment, as days missed from school is learning lost and when that lost learning time is regular it will have a detrimental impact on student attainment. A student with 90% attendance will have missed approximately four whole weeks of school for that academic year. If that 90% attendance was the norm for 5 years at school, then that child will have missed out on more than half a year of schooling in that time. I think you get the picture I am painting.

As important as attendance to school, is your child’s attitude to learning, if not more so. I am constantly imploring students to have an open mind in anything that they do (growth mind-set) and that they will get out of something exactly what they put into it. As the old saying goes “hard work forever pays”. I am sure that you are having the same discussions with your child at home and, if not, please start doing so, as it is important that they are hearing the same messages but from different voices.

These last few years are vitally important and it would be such a travesty to let all the hard work from previous years dissipate or wane, especially as they should be putting more time and effort into their studies.

I’ll say thank you for your support as always and leave you with this thought. The only place that you will find success before work is in a dictionary!

Luke Thomas, Guidance and Achievement Leader for Year 10

Parents Evening – Tuesday, 20th November (4-7pm)
It is vital that all parents/carers attend this important information sharing evening. This is an opportunity for parents/carers to meet with subject teachers and discuss predicted grades, targets and support, to ensure that your child reaches their full potential. The Careers Advisor for school will also be available to discuss Post 16 pathways.

Post 16 Applications
All students should now be completing Post 16 college applications. Most applications are completed on-line. If your child would like support in completing an application, they should use the Year 11 work area at lunchtime. A member of staff is available each lunchtime to offer advice. Students should ensure that they apply for a minimum of three 6th Form provisions.
**Attendance and Punctuality**

100% attendance in Year 11 is vital for success and achievement. Research statistics show that a student with excellent attendance (95%+) achieves on average half a grade to a grade more than a student with less than 95%. Please ensure that your child attends school every day, on time. It is extremely important that every student is on time for registration. In Year 11, registration time is used for the completion of college applications, revision, subject support and interventions and the completion of their 'Record of Achievement/CV'.

**Record of Achievement**

Every Year 11 student has been given a 'Record of Achievement' folder, which they must use to display certificates, examples of outstanding work, work experience reports, CV etc. This is a very useful document and students need to take this with them when they have college/6th Form interviews. Please encourage your child to start collecting certificates etc.

**Skills London Trip – Friday, 23rd November**

For those students that are attending the Skills London Trip, a reminder about the details: students to meet Ms Sumner at 9.30am on Friday, 23rd November at the entrance to the North Greenwich Tube Station.

We will then walk as a group over to the Emirates Airline and get a cable car over the river. We will then walk a short distance to the Excel Centre.

- Students will spend a couple of hours in the centre and then return via the cable car. The cost of the cable car is paid for by the school. There is no cost for the trip. Oyster cards are needed.
- After the visit to the Excel Centre, students will have an opportunity to eat their packed lunch (which students must bring).
- We will return to North Greenwich at approximately 2.30pm. Students will be dismissed from there or they can return to school by bus (oyster card needed).
- **Uniform must be worn** (students may wear trainers however).

Ms Sumner, Year 11 GAL

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**Post 16**

Mr Williams  
**bwilliams@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk**

Congratulations to the Basketball Academy Team who, despite trailing by 6 before half time, can back with real determination and skill to overcome an unbeaten Colchester side by over 20 points. Our team is increasingly becoming the one to watch out for in the league this year!

Well done to the four Maths Challenge students who attended the UKMT Maths Group Challenge. Four of the Sixth Form’s most able Mathematicians competed with the brightest and best from around the country. We look forward to hearing how successful they will be.

Finally a notice for all Year 11 parents. The schools Post 16 Open Evening is taking place on Wednesday, 28th November between 5:30pm and 7:00pm at the Westcombe Park site. We would like to invite all parents and Year 11 students, who are considering level 3 courses (A-level and level 3 BTECs) to come and visit us and explore the options we have here at the John Roan. We have been successful for a number of years across many of our subjects and have a higher than national average history of students getting to university from our Sixth Form. We look forward to welcoming many of you to our open evening.

Mr Williams, Director of Post 16
**Sporting News**

**Football Success**
Our Year 10 and 11 boys’ football teams have both won 5-0 in competitive matches over the last fortnight. Our Year 10 team beat Crown Woods in the borough competition, whilst our Year 11 football team beat Chelsea Academy (previous winners of the competition) at our games fields. Special mentions to go Aiden and Eneo in Year 11 for their particularly commanding performances.

**Basketball Academy Success**
The Basketball Academy team retain their 100% record after 6 games. Last week they recorded a 111-63 win - away at Havering College and this week they beat Colchester College by 17 points at The John Roan School. All of our Basketball players continue to train hard and are progressing superbly under the guidance of Coach Courtney.

**Wembley Stadium Motivation/Rewards Trip**
We were delighted to bring 35 John Roan students to watch England play the USA at Wembley on Thursday, 15th November.

This was a special experience for our students, many of whom had never seen an international football match or visited Wembley before. The behaviour of our students travelling to and away from the stadium, on what was a late night, was exemplary. Most of our attendees are involved in the new Motiv8 initiative designed to support some of our Year 10 and 11 students.

**Primary School Sports Hall Athletics**
We are welcoming 24 of our key feeder primary schools to participate in four sports hall athletics events starting next week. We were delighted with the 58 students that attended our briefing on Monday after school in preparation.

Congratulations go to Ms Horn for organising all of the events and preparing all of the students in their leadership roles. The PE Department at the John Roan are looking forward to hosting all of the Greenwich Borough primary sports hall athletics events.
15 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: GCSE Mentor Programme - Volunteers Needed!**

The school is providing additional support to Y11 students in preparation for their GCSEs and is looking for parent/carer volunteers from across the school community to help boost this.

Can you spare at least 1 hour per week after school hours (term time only)? If so, please consider becoming a GCSE Mentor. You would be partnered with a small group of Y11 students and meet regularly with them after school to help them prepare for their GCSE's. Training will be provided.

If you are interested in becoming a Mentor, please reply to the JRSA directly via email JRSA@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk as soon as possible. We appreciate that you will not be able to commit until you know more about what is involved, but if you are in principle interested, please confirm in your email reply so that once we have more info we can keep you in the loop. If you already know the times/days you would be available e.g. 'I am available on Wednesday afternoons from 3pm until 4.30 pm' or 'I am only available Monday to Friday after 6pm' or 'I am not available Monday to Friday but I could spare an hour on a Saturday morning' then please do specify this.

This is a preliminary email to get an idea of the likely numbers of people who might be able to help so that we can get the ball rolling.

This is about giving support and encouragement, pulling together to make a positive difference. We do hope you can help.

Kind regards,

Eve Daniels         Julie Keating
Co-Chair             Co-Chair