Dear Parents and Carers,

The exam season is well and truly underway, and I must say that all students have been working extremely hard and have been thoroughly focused this week. It has been a great and very positive start and it is also encouraging to speak to the students when they come out of the exam hall and to hear that they feel ‘quietly confident’.

Year 7 had a very positive PRIDE Day this week. The organisation ‘Brighter Futures’ came in to school to work with them on key employability skills and were impressed with the focus and engagement of all of the year group. Raising aspirations, developing skills in teamwork and growing the confidence of our young people are central to the work we do at the school and it was wonderful to have the opportunity to spend a full day on this.

Recently I heard someone liken parental involvement in education to “the frosting on a cupcake: it makes it complete, and oh so sweet”. Not quite the way in which I would necessarily express the importance of the partnership between school and home, but certainly a starting point for a conversation about how that partnership can make such a positive difference.

I am always so very pleased to have such strong partnerships with the parents of students at The John Roan. You keep in touch, come to meetings and are very engaged in your child’s learning. Thank you. Thank you also to those of you who extend your parenting role to the wider brief of all young people at the school. We now have ‘study buddies’ amongst our parents – volunteers who come in at the end of the school day to offer support and help to students who are studying after school. This is something that I hope we can build on over time.

We also have a strong group of parents who are a part of the JRSA and I would like to extend a big ‘thank you’ to everyone who attended the meeting on Wednesday evening. It was lovely to see so many of you there, sharing in our good news and successes, and to hear all the exciting things that the JRSA are organising.

At the meeting, we discussed ways in which parents can get involved in the school. One thought was to see if anyone is able to support staff in freshening up their displays in classrooms and around the school. If you are interested in this, please let the JRSA know and we can link you up with a department and arrange a time to come in!

Our next, and final, meeting of this academic year is on Tuesday, 25 June from 6.45pm in the Westcombe Park site, and all parents are welcome to come along. Prior to this, there will be a JRSA presence at all of the events where Year 6 children are coming in to school for their transition activities. The next big social event is the Summer BBQ – look out for details of this and do try to come along. It is a fundraiser, of course, but primarily a good way to meet other parents and enjoy a Summer evening (hopefully a warm one) in the Westcombe Park grounds.
With the Year 10 exams coming up, and the pressure on parents of Year 10 rising as a result, Mr Thomas organised a successful evening yesterday to show parents how to help their child. Those who were there were very positive about the new skills they picked up and enjoyed the opportunity to think about ways that they can provide active support at home.

We love to showcase our talent and on Tuesday next week, we are hosting an informal concert in Maze Hill Hall from 3.15pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

I’ve mentioned work experience before, and I continue to seek placements for Year 10. On top of this, we have secured five places for our Year 10 girls to be part of the KPMG Future Leaders Technology Programme. As part of the programme, the girls will be starting a work placement at KPMG Canary Wharf next week. They will be involved in various activities and workshops including work shadowing at KPMG. I hope to share stories of their time there in future newsletters.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
## Dates for the Diary

### The Week Ahead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 May 2019</td>
<td>Informal Instrumental Concert</td>
<td>Maze Hill Hall</td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
<td>4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>LAST DAY OF TERM</strong></td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>Normal School Hours</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Summer Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY</strong></td>
<td>School closed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28–31 May 2019</td>
<td><strong>MAY HALF TERM</strong></td>
<td>School Closed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>03 June 2019</td>
<td>Term begins</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 June 2019</td>
<td>New Intake Interviews</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 June 2019</td>
<td>Music A Level Concert</td>
<td>Maze Hill Hall</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 June 2019</td>
<td>Year 11 Boat Party Prom</td>
<td>Greenwich Pier</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>11.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 June 2019</td>
<td>JRSA Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.45pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>02 July 2019</td>
<td>New Intake Parent Information Eve</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 July 2019</td>
<td>New Intake Induction Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 July 2019</td>
<td>Founders Day Parent Concert</td>
<td>St Alfege Church</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12 July 2019</td>
<td>Founders Day</td>
<td>St Alfege Church</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 July 2019</td>
<td>PRIDE/Sports Day</td>
<td>Playing Fields</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 July 2019</td>
<td><strong>LAST DAY OF TERM</strong></td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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</tbody>
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News from the Heads of Year

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

It was fantastic to see so many Year 7 students in school on Tuesday participating in the PRIDE Day workshop looking at employability skills. The year group worked through code breaking, problem solving, hat designing & enterprise activities that were looking at getting them ‘job’ ready in the future. The enthusiasm and engagement in these activities was a pleasure to witness! They showed excellent focus and listening skills throughout the day, and their competitiveness in the activities ensured that everyone participated to their best ability. The noise of 200 excited students communicating and working in teams was something to behold, but the most fun and learning was had by all. Pictures will be posted on Twitter of some of the amazing makarapa hats they designed in one of the sessions.

In assembly this week, we talked about Ramadan and how some of our students are currently fasting. I reminded students they need to be aware of this and show encouragement and understanding of this during the day.

Year 7 attendance continues to be excellent. Punctuality however has slipped slightly and we continue to run late detentions for all those students who are not in their form rooms ready to learn by 8.30am. To further encourage even better punctuality, after half term, any student arriving after 8.45am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, and after 9am on Wednesday, will now have their detention increased to a 40 minute detention. We hope this will help us to continue to improve punctuality. Text notification will be sent to parents when students are to be kept for these.

Finally, thank you to all students who are attending Braithwaite who have already made payments for this and returned the confirmation slip of their attendance. Just a gentle reminder the first payment of £67 is due as by **Friday, 17th May**, and the reaming balance, if applicable, of £153 by **Monday, 3rd June**.

Have a great week. Mrs Causer, Head of Year 7

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

I am thrilled to announce this week that we are the second best year group in the school in terms of attendance (95.1%), but rank number 1 as the most amount of achievement points received (929). This shows that we are continuing to build on our fantastic year of improvement. However, I am still cautious as I am aware that we are still not in the position I would like our year group to be in.

After May half term, any student who arrives later than 8:45am (apart from Wednesdays), will receive a 40min detention which will be served on the same day. In our final push before we entry to Year 9, I want to ensure all of our students are in Tutor Time for 8:30am in order to start their day with the correct mind-set.

**Mental Health Awareness Week 2019**

Lastly, but most importantly - in assembly this week, we spent a considerable amount of time talking about Mental Health. I would urge all students and parents to use the website: Headscapegreenwich.co.uk if they are worried or concerned about anything at all. Mental Health can affect anyone at any time; including us as adults. The more we speak about it, the more we understand and the more problems we can solve.

Mr Duncan, Head of Year 8
I hope that you have had a great week.

As you know, the cultural visits planned for PRIDE Day this week were postponed due to the Industrial Action. I am currently exploring possible dates for the re-scheduling of these and will provide you with further information as soon as I am in a position to do so. The opportunity to explore our wonderful city is not one that we want to miss and I am looking forward to working with the Year 9 Tutors to plan these.

Ms Kayser has been very busy sorting out our itinerary for this year’s trip to Braithwaite. We will be travelling up to Braithwaite on Sunday, 7th July 2019 and returning on Thursday, 11th July 2019, in time for Founders’ Day on Friday, 12th July 2019.

The photographs and my article about the football final last week have been sent off to the Sports’ Editor at the South London Press. It should be in the papers next Friday, 24th May 2019.

Some of Year 9 were involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition at the weekend and I was very proud to hear what a credit they were both to themselves and to the school. My thanks to the staff who went with them, camped out and endured the challenging weather as well.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes. Mrs Angie Smith, Head of Year 9

It was such a pleasure to see those of you who were able to make the workshop/information evening last night. Judging by the number of thank you e-mails that we have already received, this indicates that the evening was not only very informative but also very useful. Who said that learning isn’t fun!

I will endeavour to give out flash cards to relevant students that they can use to assist them with their revision as we lead up to the end of year exams.

I would like to share the resources below that a parent shared with me that I think would be of benefit to your children.

Please google Khan Academy, who have loads of free videos for several subjects - amazing.

They may also find useful the BBC links below:

English

Maths

Shakespeare
There has been a rather concerning decrease in attendance to school of Year 10 students over the last few weeks. This is of concern as lessons missed from school equate to learning time missed. I know that students will be ill from time to time, but please could I request that if your child is able to attend school that they are sent in. We will monitor and keep an eye on them and if they need to be sent home, then we will do so.

I am also very concerned about the decline in punctuality of a key group of Year 10 students. Ms Kayser and I have sent several letters home recently and would really appreciate you having a word with your child, especially as they are missing out on the huge amount of exam preparation work going on in registration, not just for the exams this year but also for the exams next year.

As a result of this concern, we are introducing a new late detention policy. Students late to school between 08:30 -08:45 will continue to receive a 20 minute detention after school. Students late after 08:45, except for on a Wednesday, will be issued with a 40 minute detention, as this is a more serious lateness and is having much more of a detrimental impact on their learning. This will take immediate effect for all year groups after the May half term.

Finally, following the workshop last evening, please could I ask for your help in spreading the word about the weekly newsletter. It really is an important source of information that is relevant to your child and the more parents reading it, the more informed they are as to what is happening in school for their child(ren).

As always, have a restful weekend and thank you for your continued support.

Luke Thomas, Head of Year 10

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**Year 11**  Ms Sumner  tsumner@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

**Exams** - it has been a very busy week with lots of exams taking place. The Year 11 cohort has 'hit the ground running' and the enthusiasm and commitment by all is commendable. Students have clearly prepared well for their exams and confidence is high. Thank you to parents and carers for their continued support.

**Boat Party - 20th June** - a reminder, the final payment for the prom is the 22nd May. Parent Pay will be closed after this date and students will not be able to attend, unless they have paid the full amount.

**Leavers Assembly Arrangements - 14th June** - there is a whole cohort Science exam in the morning of the 14th. Students will then be taken to Maze Hill after the exam for the final assembly at 11am. The assembly will last approximately one hour. Students will have the opportunity for shirt signing etc after the assembly in the courtyard. The majority of students will then be dismissed to go home. Students sitting the further Maths paper in the afternoon will be escorted back to Westcombe Park. These students will be allocated a classroom space to do some final revision.

**Study Leave** - students are only being granted study leave if their predicted grades match their target grades. The majority of students will benefit from additional support from their teachers in lessons when they do not have an exam. This is under constant review.

Many thanks, Ms Sumner, Head of Year 11
Year 12 Mock Exams
Please see the timetable below – exams will start on Monday, 17\textsuperscript{th} June.

Mr Williams, Director of Sixth Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MON 17\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>TUES 18\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>WED 19\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>THURS 20\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>FRI 21\textsuperscript{st}</th>
<th>MON 24\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>TUES 25\textsuperscript{th}</th>
<th>WED 26\textsuperscript{th}</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AM</strong></td>
<td>Biology 1</td>
<td>Sociology French 1 Music Chemistry 1</td>
<td>English 1</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>English 2</td>
<td>Politics Textiles</td>
<td>Business 2* Spanish 2 French 2</td>
<td>Art Chemistry 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PM</strong></td>
<td>Physics 1 Economics 1</td>
<td>Psychology 1</td>
<td>Maths 1</td>
<td>Business 1 Spanish 1 Photography</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>English 3 Biology 2</td>
<td>Economics 2 Drama Physics 2</td>
<td>Psychology 2 Maths 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Inclusion Department

Futureversity

RBG are running their summer programme – Futureversity - which offers activities throughout the Summer from the 22nd July to 18th August (see leaflet attached).

These activities are for all children in the borough and are free and local. The sessions range from tech, art, crafts, sports, trips, theatre, music and life skills. Additionally there will be small groups and high staff ratios for young people with support needs.

You can make an application / referral yourself as a parent or if you would like the Inclusion Department to make the referral, do get in touch with our Administrator, Ashleigh France, via email: afrance@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk.

Thank you,

Siobhan McCauley (SENCo)
Creative Writing Club at Maze Hill
Every Monday in MH Library after school is the student-led Creative Writing Club. The Club is now working with The Writing Web, a creative writing blog that offers support and guidance to students who post their stories. We are looking forward to working with The Writing Web, and letters with additional information about the scheme are available from the Library - [https://thewritingweb.org/](https://thewritingweb.org/)

National Book Tokens Competition
National Book Tokens are running a competition that gives a school the opportunity to win £5000 in National Book Tokens prizes. Please consider nominating The John Roan. The more nominations the school receives, the higher our chances of winning. Thank you in advance - [https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools)

National Share a Story Month - Jackanory Week
To conclude our National Share a Story Month activities, we will be holding a special Jackanory Week. Students have been asked to vote for their favourite travel connected story, and at the time of writing it was a closely fought competition between Harry Potter (Hogwarts Express) and Paddington (and his travels from Peru).

The John Roan Word of the Week
Word: Perseverance

Definition:
steady persistence in a course of action, especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.

Example sentence: Through hard work and perseverance, he worked his way up to the top.

Word group: noun

Synonyms: persistence, tenacity, determination,

The Weekly Challenge: Use the noun perseverance, as many times as possible throughout the week and you could receive PRIDE points every time! This can be verbally OR in your written work.
Informal Instrumental/Vocal Concert – Tuesday, 21st May

The third and final informal music concert of the year will take place this Tuesday, 21st May after school in Maze Hill hall. This is a concert for students who have instrumental or singing lessons at the school to showcase the progress they have made in lessons.

The concert is open to all students that have lessons, so there will be a large range of abilities and year groups performing; some students may well be performing to an audience for the first time. Please do come along for the concert; it would be great to see a large audience to support the students. You do not need a ticket and the concert will be roughly from 3:15 - 4:30pm.

Thank you,

Mr Wright, Head of Music