23 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As confirmed in the newsletter last week, the NEU have withdrawn their intention to strike on Tuesday and Thursday next week. This is good news and on that basis, the school will remain open on these days. However, I do need to alert you to the possibility of a partial closure on Thursday, 29th November. This is not confirmed and is subject to the outcome of a ballot by members of the GMB on Monday next week. I am aware that this would be very late notice for you, should it happen, and I will ensure that you are provided with information as soon as possible if the school is not going to be fully open on this day. Please keep checking your Parent Pay notifications, as this is the best way for me to contact all parents quickly.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 11 Parents Evening on Tuesday. There was a strong turnout from parents and students, and I hope you found the evening useful and very informative. I was very pleased to talk to many parents about the progress of their children and to have useful conversations around how families are helping their children to prepare for the mock exams. I know, from my own experience, that it is not easy having a child at home who is in Year 11. The amount of independent work needed to prepare fully for the exams is huge, and finding the balance between work and leisure is something that many young people find difficult. We hope that we are providing the right level of support to all of our students, but please let us know if you have any concerns or questions.

We will be hosting our annual Post 16 Open Evening on Wednesday, 28th November from 5.30-7.00pm in the Westcombe Park building and I would like to encourage all parents of Year 11 students to attend. The evening will be a wonderful showcase of what The John Roan has to offer our aspiring young people.

Our next PRIDE Day is taking place on Friday, 30th November with an extensive programme of activities for each year group. Our commitment to broadening the experiences of our students was also in evidence earlier in the week when an author, Ruth Eastham, visited the school on Monday and gave an inspiring presentation to Year 8 students. Our Year 10 sports leaders have been engaged in the first of a number of primary school sports days based here at The John Roan. It is wonderful to hear about how well they have led the events.

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>28 November 2018</td>
<td>Post 16 Open Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 2018</td>
<td>PRIDE Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>ALL DAY</td>
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## PARENTS EVENINGS 2018/19

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 December 2018</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks WEEK</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6 December 2018</td>
<td>Ski Trip Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 December 2018</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks WEEK</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 December 2018</td>
<td><strong>LAST DAY OF TERM</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News from the Guidance and Achievement Leaders

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

The Year 7’s have mostly had a very positive week, and had the pleasure of being an audience for our Debate Mate National Winners in assembly. They were able to follow a show debate on National Service, and came up with some very interesting questions during the audience participation. Hopefully this will encourage students to attend the debating club every Thursday after school at Maze Hill.

Final preparations for our second PRIDE day on Friday, 30th November are being completed and I am pleased that the Year 7’s will be looking at the theme of Remembrance and Peace. This will include a carousel of activities which will be slightly different for each Form Group, including outside speakers from ‘Blesma’, who are delivering a session based on resilience and ‘Guvna B’ a rapper who has a message of peace throughout their performance. Please see the links below for further information. Alongside this, some students will be walking to visit either the Old Royal Naval College or the National Maritime Museum & the Queens House, and onsite activities looking at war poetry and creating poppies inspired by the artworks of Paul Cummins. It will a fantastic day and I look forward to sharing how the day went in a couple of weeks' time.

https://blesma.org/

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Military Charity for Limbless Veterans | Blesma
blesma.org

Blesma, The Limbless Veterans, is an armed forces non profit charity supporting limbless veterans in the UK for the duration of their lives. We are proud to provide rehabilitative activities, welfare support and financial help for amputees. Find out more, including fundraising ideas and events.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0000v5g
We are continuing on our upward curve in terms of our attendance, punctuality and behaviour; three aspects that plagued our year group last year. We are still far from perfect, however, I am tremendously proud of how our year group is growing and maturing. Hard work and dedication!

To continue to track and improve behaviour, a few students will be placed on Report Card. There are five targets for the students to achieve during each lesson. If the student fails any of the five targets, the teacher will put a cross next to the respective target(s). For each cross a student receives, it automatically turns into a 10min detention, which will be served on the day during our Daily Pastoral Detentions. If your child is placed on Report Card, your child's Form Tutor will communicate this to you.

On to more positive news, next week marks our PRIDE Day 2! On Friday the 30th, we have an action packed day with all of our students attending off-site museums and historical landmarks, which has links to World War 1. 8J and 8A will visit the Imperial War Museum, 8H and 8T will visit the National Army Museum, 8R and 8O will visit HMS Belfast and 8N and 8E will visit the Royal Air Force Museum.

Next week also marks the start of our John Roan Bake Off competition. If your child is interested in taking part, they will need to have a partner to bake with, as well as provide their own ingredients and recipes! A huge thank you to Ms Stephens-Brown for assisting us to make this competition happen! The sign up sheet for each heat is on the Year 8 office door.

Lastly - we will be celebrating 60 of our students who have set very high standards for themselves and the year group with a Rewards Trip to Bluewater Shopping Centre. Your child will be bringing home a letter for the Rewards Trip after our assembly on Friday morning.

Have a great weekend and wrap up warm!

Mr Duncan, Year 8 GAL
Year 9 have had another successful week with many post cards for outstanding achievement being sent, in addition to all the achievement points being awarded – so well done Year 9. Attendance is also improving on a weekly basis, despite all the usual coughs, colds and bugs that plague us all at this time of year.

The highlight of the week for me was watching three members of Year 9: Abya Nouar, Jeremy Ellis and Aedan Bullen join in with students from Years 8 and 10 for the Debate Mate Show Debate, which they delivered during an extended Year 7 assembly on Wednesday of this week. The Vice-Chairman of The John Roan Foundation, Mr Chris Strong was our guest of honour. After the show debate, he gave a short talk to the students about the wonderful work that The Foundation does to enrich and enhance our students’ educational experience. Indeed, The John Roan Foundation funds the school’s membership of Debate Mate. Mr Strong was incredibly impressed at the very high standard of the speeches that were delivered and he said that he could quite see how The John Roan had won the national finals of the Novice Urban Debate League Cup earlier in the year.

I hope to have more news for you next week about the Five-a-side Inter-tutorial Football Tournament and our rewards trip to Canary Wharf for some seasonal ice-skating, which we are busy planning. Preparations for Year 9’s next Celebration of Success Assembly are also in the making.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes, Mrs Angie Smith, Year 9 GAL

Year 10

Mr Thomas

Please find below the programme in place for PRIDE Day 2. We will start to support students with preparing a CV and personal statement for their work experience next year. Year 10 students have already received a work experience assembly and issued with letters via their Tutors (as well as a copy being sent to you via ParentPay) to assist them with finding a placement. Please be aware that it is your child’s responsibility to find a placement for work experience next July, otherwise it will have to be a normal school week, as those students who have not found placements will be expected to attend school as normal.

The behaviour of Year 10 students in general is starting to become a concern for me. Several students have been placed on report to their Tutors or me as a result of poor/disruptive behaviour. I would appreciate you having a word with your child concerning the importance
of their education and the very positive impact it will have on their lives through their attainment at school.

We are busily preparing for the end of term celebrations, so I hope that your child will be one of many to bring home an attainment or progress certificate from school in the next few weeks and, as a result, have a visit from Father Christmas for being so good.

Our end of term ice-skating trip to Somerset House is fast approaching on Tuesday, 4th December. Those students who were lucky enough to have their names picked out the hat have already been informed so I’m very sorry if your child missed out. I wish that it were possible to take 100 of them ice-skating to Somerset House, as I have no doubt that we would have filled the trip but we only had 47 spaces.

Thank you again for all your continued support with Year 10s and have a restful weekend.

Luke Thomas, Guidance and Achievement Leader for Year 10

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

Thank you to all those parents/carers who attended parents evening on Tuesday, 20th November. If parents were unable to attend, you will receive a copy of your child’s most recent report, a question level analysis sheet and an individual mock exam timetable.

PRIDE Day – Friday, 30th November
On Friday 30th November, Year 11 will take part in PRIDE Day 2. On the day, there will be a carousel of activities based around the theme of Positive Futures. The carousel is a combination of both academic and pastoral enrichment stemming from student voice. External speakers - ‘The Crib’ and ‘Keeping the Peace’, will deliver two sessions. ‘Keeping the Peace with Guvna B’ is a rapper who has a message of peace through performance. ‘The Crib’ deliver a powerful message about the consequences of knife crime. The remainder of the day will be focusing on preparation for exams (English, Maths and Science). Please see links below for additional information:

Welcome [www.thecrib.org.uk]

www.thecrib.org.uk

Who are we? The Crib is a social inclusion/intervention project that works with young people aged between 9-24. Who are NEET - at risk of offending, gang affiliated or are in ‘Targeted’ groups in areas, which need support, delivering positive activities to help develop positive young citizens.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0000v5g
Coach Bright
Academic mentoring by post-graduate students starts this Saturday for targeted Year 11 students (9.30am - 12.30pm).

Year 11 Mock Exams
The majority of mock exams start on the 7th December. Students have individual mock exam timetables. Students have a study revision booklet that details the topics that they must revise for each subject. Please encourage your child to do a minimum of two hours revision each night and more at weekends.

Ms Sumner, Year 11 GAL

Post 16  Mr Williams  bwilliams@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

Please don't forget our Sixth Form Open Evening this week on Wednesday, 28th November at Westcombe Park from 5:30-7:00pm. We look forward to seeing many of you there to discuss options for next years' studies with us for A-levels and Level 3 BTecs subjects.

Mr Williams, Director of Post 16
As we approach the festive season there are a number of musical events taking place in and outside of school. This **Monday, 26th November** there is the **Royal Greenwich Music Gala** at Blackheath Halls, where two students are representing The John Roan. Zuriel Williams-Kabasomi, Year 10, and Phoebe Cheshire-Miles, Year 12, will be singing a vocal duet at this prestigious event that is celebrating the best musical talent across a range of primary and secondary schools in the borough. If you would like to buy tickets for this event, which takes place from 7 – 9:30pm, you can do so on the Blackheath Halls website: [www.blackheathhalls.com](http://www.blackheathhalls.com)

The following **Monday, 3rd December** sees our Junior Choir take part in the annual **Maritime Schools Christmas Concert** in the Old Naval College. They will be singing the Simon and Garfunkel classic, ‘Bridge Over Troubled Water’, before joining with all the other schools to perform a joint choir version of ‘Jingle Bell Rock’. Parents are welcome to attend this **free** concert and it will take place from 1:00pm to 2:10pm.

On **Tuesday, 4th December**, we will be hosting our first **informal instrumental concert** of the year. This was originally going to take place on Tuesday 27th November but I have postponed it by one week to give students an extra week to perfect their pieces! We have a range of instruments/voices performing and all are welcome to attend. This concert will take place from 3:00 – 4:30pm in Maze Hill Hall and will be free of charge.

Our biggest event of the term, the **Christmas Concert**, will take place on **Tuesday 18th December** in Maze Hill Hall. The school ensembles are currently rehearsing for this, so if your son/daughter would like to take part in the concert then they need to attend all rehearsals from now until then (please see schedule of ensemble rehearsals below). The concert will take place from 6:30 – 8:15pm and tickets for this event will be on sale shortly from Reception at both sites.

Lastly, this morning two Year 12 students, Inaki Concepcion-Sanchez and Phoebe Cheshire-Miles, had their cover (arranged and recorded at school) of The Cure’s ‘Friday I’m in Love’ played on La Cadena SER 105.4, Spain’s premier radio station. The station has an average of four million listeners so this was a great achievement and one that the students were very excited by!

**Extra-curricular music ensembles schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays</th>
<th>Junior Choir</th>
<th>Lunchtime, M107</th>
<th>Y7 &amp; 8</th>
<th>Ms Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>Rock Band</td>
<td>3 – 4pm, Recording Studio, WP</td>
<td>Y9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>School Orchestra</td>
<td>3 – 4pm, W001</td>
<td>All year groups *</td>
<td>Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>String Group</td>
<td>Lunchtime, M107</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 8**</td>
<td>Ms Talbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>Jazz Band</td>
<td>3 – 4:30pm, W001</td>
<td>All year groups***</td>
<td>Mr Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>Lunchtime, W001</td>
<td>Y9 - 11</td>
<td>Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Orchestra is open to any student that plays an orchestral instrument that has passed grade 1 and is working towards grade 2.

** Beginner to grade 1 group for violin/cello players

***Jazz Band is open to any student that plays either saxophone, trumpet, clarinet, guitar or piano that has passed grade 1 and is working towards grade 2.

Mr Wright, Head of Music
Sporting News

Sports Leadership
We were delighted to welcome five primary schools to The John Roan School to participate in the Greenwich Borough Primary Sportshall athletics events this week. Our 20 Sports Leaders were outstanding and a real inspiration. We were inundated with excellent feedback from students and visiting teachers.

Next week we welcome a further 17 primary schools to our events running on Tues, Wed and Thurs. Details about how to become a Sports Leader can be obtained from Ms Horn.

Come and join the fun!!!!
Badminton, Cricket, Table Tennis and Trampolining Clubs
A reminder that the above clubs are open to all students after school. Badminton operates on Mondays. Indoor Cricket on Tuesdays and our Table Tennis and Trampoline clubs run on Thursdays after school.

Rugby Success
A big well done to the Year 9 rugby team. They performed brilliantly in the Greenwich schools competition by winning 1, drawing 1 and being narrowly defeated in one game. Special mentions go to Lewis Gibbs and Milo Eustace-Cole for exceptional performance. Rugby training operates after school every Thursday. Everyone is welcome!
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
Co-Chair

Julie Keating
Co-Chair