25 January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Monday, we held the first of our IEB meetings, whereby I met some of the members for the first time. The Chair of the Board has given me an introductory message to send to you all, which is printed below. I am very pleased that this team of experienced people are clearly going to be able to support our work on school improvement and I am already planning with each of them the ways in which they can do this. In addition to their monthly meetings, they all expect to work with me on different areas of school improvement and will be able to spend some time on The John Roan between meetings doing this.

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Please find below an introduction from Steve Belk, Chair of the IEB

I would like to introduce myself as Chair of the newly appointed Interim Executive Board. Three of us (myself, Anne Hudson and Jackie Valin), have a great deal of experience of leading school improvement and between us have supported a number of schools to make rapid improvement. The other two members of the board, Florence Kroll and David Skinner provide the continuity with the previous governing body and the essential link with the local authority. We are all looking forward to working with Cath Smith and her colleagues to improve the education provision at John Roan.

An Interim Executive Board (IEB) is a small body appointed on a short-term basis to turn around a school that is judged to be in urgent need of improvement. The IEB replaces the governing body of the school and the main functions are to secure a sound basis for future improvement in the school and promote high standards of educational achievement.

The John Roan IEB met for the first time on Monday, 21st January and will meet at least monthly from now on. Our main focus will be to continue to improve teaching and learning. We aim to ensure that all children make rapid progress and their results compare well to national expectations.

We hope to meet with parents later in the term but if you need to contact us about governance issues, please email me at the following address: iebchair@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk.

Best wishes,

Steve Belk

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I have lots to tell you about, as we have so much going on this week! On Monday, 28th January, we will be hosting Pride Day 3 and there is an abundance of activities and trips taking place. Year 7 will be offsite on many amazing trips, for example visiting The Natural History Museum, RAF Hendon, the Bank of England Museum and the National Portrait Gallery. Year 8 will be taking part in life skills awareness workshops, please see Mr Duncan’s article for more details.
Year 9 will be involved in a number of careers related events, in line with the work that they are doing in PHSE at the moment around selecting GCSE Options and thinking about their futures.

Although most students will have some time on the day to consider the impact of the Holocaust, Year 10 will have this important topic as the theme of their day and will be engaged in a range of activities to deepen their understanding in this area.

Year 11 will work with Humanutopia - ‘The Final Push’. This workshop focuses on preparation for exams, exam mind-set and how to fulfil potential. Please see Miss Sumner’s article. And finally, our Post 16 students will be attending their Student Progress Review Day appointments and Safe Drive, Stay Alive driving safety course (please see Mr Williams’ article).

Also during the evening of the 28th, we will be hosting the UCL Competition Round of Debate Mate and very much hope that the home advantage will ensure that our teams are successful.

On Tuesday, 29th from 6pm we have the Year 10 information evening, and you should have received details separately about this from Mr Thomas. Can I ask all Year 10 parents to endeavour to attend this very informative evening. Also on the 29th from 6.45pm, is the next meeting of the JRSA, which will be held in the Westcombe Park site, please see their section at the end of this newsletter.

Following this on Wednesday, 30th from 6pm in Maze Hill, is the Year 9 Options Evening. This important evening will take parents and students through the process of selecting GCSE courses and will be an opportunity to find out about the range of courses on offer for our Key Stage 4. The decisions that Year 9 are making will help shape their future and I encourage as many Year 9 parents as possible to attend. You will have seen information on the evening in last week’s newsletter.

Professional Development for John Roan Staff – Thursday, 17th January
To ensure that all staff benefit from ongoing professional development opportunities at all stages of their journey towards outstanding and beyond, on the 17th a core group of teachers spent an intensive few hours exploring research based theories. In particular:

- ‘research in cognitive science'
- ‘research on the classroom practices of master teachers’
- ‘research on cognitive support to help students learn complex tasks

The session was tailored to the specific needs of our school and offered rigorous, hands-on training. The teachers involved thoroughly enjoyed it and left armed full of strategies to incorporate into their lessons. Afterwards, a member of staff declared: ‘it was the best CPD I’ve ever received!' Professional training is something we are becoming increasingly passionate about in our school, and there are many more exciting opportunities scheduled for the year. Long may it continue! Please see a few pictures below of the event.
YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE - 8th to 12th JULY 2019

It is becoming increasingly challenging for students and the school to find Work Experience Placements however, this is a great opportunity that we would not want them to miss.

We would very much appreciate it if you, or someone you know, are able to provide a work placement for a Year 10 student for Work Experience running from 8th to 12th July 2019. If you are able to help, please get in touch with Liz Proctor on 0208 516 7760 or via email eproctor@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk providing your full contact details for the organisation offering the placement and a very brief job description for the placement offered.

Please note: only employers with Employers’ Liability Insurance Cover are eligible for inclusion in the Greenwich Work Experience Programme

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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 January 2019</td>
<td>PRIDE Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
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<td>28 January 2019</td>
<td>Post 16 Progress Review Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
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<td>28 January 2019</td>
<td>Post 16 ‘Safe Drive, Stay Alive’ - driving safety course</td>
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<td>28 January 2019</td>
<td>UCL Competition Round - Debate Mate</td>
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<td>29 January 2019</td>
<td>Year 10 Information Evening</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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<td>29 January 2019</td>
<td>JRSA Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 January 2019</td>
<td>Year 9 Options Evening</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
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## PARENTS EVENINGS 2018/19

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>13 February 2019</td>
<td>Year 8 Parents' Evening</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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## SPRING TERM

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February 2019</td>
<td><strong>HALF TERM</strong></td>
<td><strong>School closed</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7 March 2019</td>
<td>PRIDE Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 March 2019</td>
<td>JRSA Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 – 22 April 2019</td>
<td><strong>EASTER HOLIDAYS</strong></td>
<td><strong>School closed</strong></td>
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News from the Guidance and Achievement Leaders

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

As mentioned last week, Year 7 will be venturing into London on four different trips on Monday as part of PRIDE Day 3 with the theme “open your eyes”. Each trip has been planned by their FT to take students to The Natural History Museum, The National Portrait Gallery, The Bank of England Museum and the RAF Museum. Please see below for where your child’s form group is going:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form groups</th>
<th>Trip</th>
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<tr>
<td>7J, 7R &amp; 7E</td>
<td>Bank of England Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>7O</td>
<td>RAF Hendon Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>7H, 7N, 7A</td>
<td>Natural History &amp; Science Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>7T</td>
<td>National Portrait Gallery.</td>
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Letters have been sent home with these details and a request for any updated medical issues that we will need to know about. Please do return these as necessary. I am sure the Year Group will have a fantastic day.

The girl’s football team played Thomas Tallis School away this week, and after a disappointing first half they put up a great fight with lots of shots on goal to come away 3-2, loosing very narrowly. A great effort from the girls, well done!

Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Causer, Year 7 GAL

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

I apologise for not having an article in our Newsletter last week.

On Monday 28th, we have our PRIDE Day 3 occurring where our students will be studying a number of real-life scenarios. A Life is a workshop that explores alcohol and drug awareness. KLED is another workshop focussing on healthy relationships and Humanutopia is a fantastic workshop that we as staff have used for INSET. Below are web-links to the companies/agencies who will be coming in for our workshops. The students will remain in school and normal school uniform is expected.

https://https://www.a-life.co.uk
https://www.humanutopia.com
http://www.kleducationconsultants.com
We also have our postponed Rewards Trip, which I am in the final stages of planning. More details will follow and I appreciate the patience our students have shown for this upcoming trip.

February the 13th marks our Y8 Parent/Teacher Consultation evening. Your child will bring home a letter about Parent's Evening. Please tear off the attached sheet and ask your child to return it to their Form Tutor by the 1st February.

Finally, our year group are experiencing a number of issues revolving around Social Media (Snapchat, Instagram and many other apps). I would urge all parents to have a greater understanding of their child's phone usage. Please may I also remind you that the Police deal with any Cyberbullying. Please, please do monitor your child's phone usage.

If you would like to discuss any of these issues with me, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Mr Duncan, Year 8 GAL

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

I look forward to seeing everyone next Wednesday the 30th from 6pm for the Year 9 Options Evening. I know this will be a jammed packed evening full of information sharing and is a very important evening for shaping the future of our Year 9s.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Mrs Angie Smith, Year 9 GAL

Year 10  Mr Thomas  ithomas@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

I would like to apologise for the clerical error that may have caused some confusion regarding RAP students for English and/or Maths. IF you are unsure as to which subject your child may be on RAP for, please send me an e-mail. This is only applicable if you have received a RAP letter over the last week or so. Maths intervention classes are on Tuesdays, with Mr Nwakude and Ms Abaji from 3-4 and English intervention classes are on Thursdays, with Ms Ismail and Mr Skinner from 3-4. Please could you ensure that your child attends if they have been invited to do so.

I’d also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Year 10 Parents Information Evening next week. This is not a parents evening for Year 10s (that will be in May) but an invaluable opportunity to better understand the dynamics of the curriculum for English, Maths and Science, as well as speak with Heads of Departments for these subjects (there may be some subject teachers present), as well as there being a huge focus on how we will be working together over the next 17 months, as we prepare your child for their GCSE exams.

I’m afraid that I have to revisit an old wound and it is one that has opened up again since the start of the term. There are still far too many Year 10 students not completing their homework on a regular basis or handing homework of sub-standard basis. Please can I again ask for your support in checking your child’s planner and Show My Homework to see if they have any homework, check that the homework has been completed and check that the homework is up to the required standard. There is a real push in the school to ensure that homework is marked
regularly and that students are provided with good feedback to aid their progress/understanding in the topic.

There has also been a real decline in the punctuality to school of Year 10 students. Please may I again ask for your assistance in ensuring that your child attends school regularly but also on time, as the work taking place in registration is proving effective as the data for the Autumn term was very, very strong for the year group.

Finally, I would like to report back that the feedback received from the students who went on their taster day at the London School of Economics was very positive. The programme leaders at LSE were so impressed with our students that we have now received another date, which means that we will be aiming to take 60 more students to LSE over the course of this term and the summer term. Please could you ensure that you return the invitation reply slip expediently when they are sent home. They go home with the students invited, as well as via ParentPay, as we are having to chase up far too many invitation reply slips, which causes unnecessary delays. If your child would not like to take up the opportunity afforded to them, then we would very much like to offer it to another student, while still being able to complete all the required paperwork in a timely manner, as there is a lot of paperwork that we have to complete for school trips.

The Year 10 Football Team played Deptford Green School in an early round London Cup fixture on Thursday, 24 January. Unfortunately, the result wasn't what was expected and they experienced their first loss of the season 4-1. The boys continued to play some very attractive football however, were unable to put their chances away. Although it was a tough result to accept, the boys evaluated their performance and took responsibility for mistakes that lead to conceding 4 goals. The boys will have learned from that game and picked themselves up as they have their quarterfinal match against Hatcham in the Blackheath Cup in the next two weeks - in their own words 'we will win the Blackheath Cup!'

Thank you again, as always, for your continued support.

Luke Thomas, Guidance and Achievement Leader for Year 10

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

Dates for the Diary
Ice-skating - 31st January - rewards trip for good attendance and positive learning and commitment.

Mock exam results assembly - 29th January - students receive results from their mock exams.

Thank you, Ms Sumner, Year 11 GAL

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

The latest school league tables for 16-19 performance were published last week. We are really proud to let you know that The John Roan Sixth Form is above average (in the top 22% of Sixth Forms nationally) for progress in both our A-level and BTEC qualifications. Please see details of the link below.
Safe Drive, Stay Alive
On Monday 28th January, all of our Year 12 and Year 13 students will be attending a Driving Safety course run by RBG in partnership with the emergency services. Many of our Sixth Formers are either driving, learning to drive or have friends who they may be sharing lifts with, so we know this kind of education is really important for our students. I would welcome any parental feedback (bwilliams@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk) on this or any other issues that you think are important and that our students would benefit with support on.

Mr Williams, Director of Post 16
Holocaust Memorial Day - Recommended Reads
To commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January, why not try one of our recommended reads?

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr
Hidden: True Stories of Children Who Survived World War II by Marcel Prins
The Promise by Eva Schloss
I am David by Anne Holm
Hitler’s Canary by Sandi Toksvig

RSPB Big Bird Watch
On Tuesday 29th January, students at Maze Hill will be taking part in the RSPB Big Bird Watch at lunchtime.

World Read Aloud Day
Friday, 1st February is World Read Aloud Day and to celebrate we have been asking students to vote for which classic novel they would like to listen to at lunchtime in both libraries. The winning book will be announced on the 1st February and it is currently a closely fought race.

The John Roan Word of the Week
Word: winsome

Definition: attractive or appealing in a fresh, innocent way.

Example sentence: The salesman’s winsome grin put the woman at ease.

Synonyms: adorable, endearing, engaging

The Weekly Challenge: Use the adjective WINSOME 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.
Sporting News

Year 7 Girls Football

Before the break, the girls won their first round of the Blackheath Cup against Leigh Academy coming away with a comfortable 3-0 win.

On Tuesday, 22nd January, the Year 7 Girls Football Team had their second round match against Thomas Tallis. Here is the match report by Mia Ogretmen.

"Kick off was at 3pm and the two team Captain's had to flip a coin. We won the coin flip but decided to let them start off, so we could have the advantage second half. However, unfortunately, that choice didn't work as Thomas Tallis were hard competitors and we put up a good fight but it wasn't enough. We tried our best but three early shots went in. As the half time whistle blew, we caught our breath and sorted our game. The next half we put a good defence. Then out of nowhere Renee our striker scored an amazing goal. With the score 3-1, we were on the hunt again and with only 10 minutes left Hali, our other striker, scored the next goal to make it 3-2. As we were finally closing up on them, the final whistle blew. The year 7 Girls Football Team lost, but a very well done to Hali, Renee, Lila, Mia, Alisha, Tiana, Aaleyah, Jamie-Lee, Ella and Recheal. An even bigger well done to Tiana (our GK) for getting woman of the match."

Football training is every Tuesday at WP from 3-4pm with Ms Horn. Everyone is welcome.

Year 11 Football

This week, we saw our Year 11 Football Team beat Halley Academy 7-0 in the quarterfinals of the Blackheath Cup. It was a tremendous performance and ensures the Year 11 Team progress through to the semi-final stage.

Our Basketball Academy Team were beaten by 1 point in the final second of their game against The North School in the ABL. The defeat was tough to take for our students but will prove an excellent learning experience. They have won 8 from 10 games this season and remain 2nd in the league.

We are attempting to attract more female Basketball players to our Thursday after-school sessions.

Ms Horn led 15 Sports Leaders as they ran an excellent inclusive Primary Schools Boccia Tournament. It was inspiring to see our primary participants enjoying their sport and our Leaders operating as superb role models. The planning that went into this event from Ms Horn was, as usual, exemplary.
The Tuesday **indoor cricket sessions** are open to all students. We are keen to see more attend, particularly as we have some competitions coming up and we’re hoping to regain our crown as the Greenwich Borough Champions.

Our **GCSE PE students in Years 10 & 11** are currently engaged in a rigorous sequence of circuit training sessions. They are demonstrating excellent independent learning and lots of pride in lessons at the moment.
News from the JRSA

1. **GRAND RAFFLE DRAW UPDATE!** The JRSA will be holding a Grand Raffle Draw this term to raise funds for the School. Watch this space for details on how to buy your tickets. We have some more fantastic prizes ready to be won, generously donated by our local community:

- 2 Complimentary Cinema Tickets kindly donated by Greenwich Picturehouse
- A collection of luxury teas generously donated by the Whittard store in the Icon
- A fantastic bottle of wine kindly donated by The Theatre of Wine on Trafalgar Rd in Greenwich
- A £50 meal voucher generously donated by the Mogul Indian Restaurant [http://mogulindian.co.uk](http://mogulindian.co.uk)
- A beauty hamper
- A garden planter gift set

- 12 indoor karting vouchers generously donated by [https://www.teamsport.co.uk/](https://www.teamsport.co.uk/). (These are valid at any of the 24 racetracks except Tower Bridge and London Docklands and must be used by 12 April 2019. Each of the vouchers entitles 1 adult or 1 child to 1/2 hour of karting)

Please let us know if you, your business or somebody you know would be willing to support the school by donating a raffle prize: jrsa@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk.

2. **REMINDERS:**

- Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 29th January at 6.45pm (Westcombe Park Rd site) where we will be looking at bids from Departments and Year Heads. Come along and join in.
- **FREE MONEY** Please register using this unique link – just search for ‘The John Roan School Association - Greenwich’ and click ‘support us’