8 March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for supporting us in our big push this week to improve punctuality to school. There has been a marked improvement over the week, but still some way to go with a few young people. However, what we have seen is that it is possible to get to school a few minutes earlier in the morning and thus avoid a detention! Let’s all keep up the pressure and aim to get everyone leaving the house just a couple of minutes earlier next week! Thank you.

The next big focus for us is uniform. Generally, our students come in good uniform and wear it with pride. However, there are still some who add in extras i.e. sweatshirts and hoodies under their blazer etc. or who persist in wearing trainers. I would really appreciate all of us working together to ensure that black V-neck jumpers are the only additional item worn over the shirt and under the blazer and to ensure that all young people have a pair of school shoes each day. Thank you for your support with this.

The PRIDE Day today has seen the school buzzing with a huge variety of activities and learning experiences and you will no doubt hear about some of these from your children. These days provide learning opportunities in different contexts and are enormously valuable. It is also so good to see the students getting to learn from outside visitors, through trips and visits and just generally in a different way from the usual.

Any of you in contact with Year 6 families will know that they are now aware of the secondary school that they will be going to in September. We have a number of events lined up over the next few months to get them into school and familiarise themselves with the school building and some of the staff and students. Our first event is on March 21st and we are looking forward to meeting our new students and families then.

We are also having a big push to recruit new staff to the school for September. If you know of anyone who might be looking to work at the John Roan, please let them know that we have an Open Morning to find out more about working at the school - March 23rd. The details are on our website.

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>12 March 2019</td>
<td>Instrumental/Vocal Concert</td>
<td>Maze Hill Hall</td>
<td>3.15 pm</td>
<td>4.30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### PARENT EVENINGS 2018/19

<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>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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SPRING 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>20 March 2019</td>
<td>JRSA Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.45 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8–22 April 2019</td>
<td><strong>EASTER HOLIDAYS</strong></td>
<td><strong>School closed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 April 2019</td>
<td>Term begins</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News from the Guidance and Achievement Leaders

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

Year 7 have had a fantastic week this week getting themselves immersed in sports fixtures, author visits, and Library events and finishing the week with PRIDE day 4.

The Year 7 boys Football Team had a great win (2–1) against a very strong St Mary’s Magdalene School, and the Year 7 representatives for the Greenwich Schools Cross Country Team performed fantastically well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7 Girls</th>
<th>Year 7 Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amelia Lawrence 29th &amp; 4th scorer for Greenwich</td>
<td>Michael Eden 45th &amp; 7th scorer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miriam Price 52nd &amp; 7th scorer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlett Eustance Cole 66th &amp; 10th scorer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team 4th with 6 to score</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There have been many Library events taking place to celebrate World Book Day all week, including activities at lunchtime, and a visit from Author - Philip Womack - who ran a workshop for some of our students. One of our students has also created a newsletter “The Green and Gold” to try to encourage more students to attend the activities taking place in the Library each week.

This week students have also completed a student voice questionnaire to help us to hear what they have to say about the school. I look forward to hearing how they feel we can make a difference to help them achieve and be more successful.

Have a great week. Mrs Causer, Year 7 GAL

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

At the moment, we are third in the school in regards to Attendance; with Y7s and Y10s leading the way. I would just like to remind families of the importance of always being in school, as there is a direct link between being in school and receiving high grades.

We are also tightening up on our morning procedures. If any student does not get to their Tutor Room by the second pip in the morning, this will count as a Late Mark, and automatically become an S3 Detention at the end of the day (Pastoral Daily Detention).

We continue to improve as the year goes on. I know we have more work to do, but it is always important to reflect and look back to see our journey. I am very impressed by the conduct of 98% of our Year 8s.

I am always eager to hear parents’ views/ideas, so feel free to get in touch and recommend trips/outings or anything else that will enhance the learning of our students. I was very impressed to see over 30 students had signed up to the London Met University trip. I am hopeful we will be able to run another trip to discuss GCSE choices, as well as possibilities at University.

Have a great weekend. Mr Duncan, Year 8 GAL
This has been another action packed week for Year 9. In assembly this week, Ms Mann handed out the medals to the students who represented The John Roan so well by coming third in the Junior Boys A Race at the L.S.A.A. Cross Country. The medallists were Daniel Kennett Brown, Jude Smith, Theo Hafford Tear and Lewis Gibbs, who finished as the third best team in London in the Junior Boys A race.

The Master Chef Competition has been approved by the Senior Leadership Team. However, they have requested that we wait until the Year 11s have finished their final preparations for their GCSEs, as this is such a crucial time for them and their teachers. So, watch this space!

In the same assembly, I was able to congratulate the Year 9 members of The Debate Mate Teams, as we hosted Round Two of the UDL Cup Competition on Tuesday, 5th March 2019. Both teams won both their debates and we now await the national results which will be published in about three weeks’ time on the Debate Mate website. So many congratulations go to Abya Nouar, Hamish Stewart, Aedan Bullen and Jeremy Ellis.

The students also completed a student survey which, along with the school council, created another opportunity for them to have a voice and an input into ways of improving their educational experience at The John Roan.

This morning, you should have received a letter and consent form via email from the Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust providing information about the forthcoming immunisations for your child. If you do not have access to the Internet or have not received this email for any reason, please ask your child to collect a hard copy from the Reception at Westcombe Park. I will need the consent form returned to your child’s Tutor by Friday, 25th March 2019. The Oxleas Team are coming into school on the 21st March 2019 to do an assembly for the students about the importance of the immunisations. The boys’ immunisations will take place on Friday, 5th April 2019 and the girls’ immunisations will take place on Tuesday, 23rd April 2019.

It just remains for me to wish you an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes, Mrs Angie Smith, Year 9 GAL

It’s been an incredibly busy week, but one that has been extremely productive. The Year 10 students have had a really good week barring one issue, which I will allude to later.

Please be aware that Braithwaite letters need to be returned to me no later than Tuesday, 12th March. There has been a very positive response to students wanting to go this year, especially as it’s their last opportunity to go to Braithwaite.

I apologise if my entry last week was a bit long (this one will be much shorter) but I’d rather get such important information out to you than not. There has been a number of students bringing me memory sticks this week for the Science resources, even more show up after I showcased what they would be getting during our assembly on Tuesday. I may start charging at this rate due to the demand! I jest of course. If your child hasn’t already brought a memory stick to me for Science resources, please can they do so ASAP, as the sooner revision starts then the better.
Placement Finding Sessions
About half the year group have already secured a work experience placement for this July. For those students who have still not secured a placement, we are running placement finding sessions every Tuesday & Friday lunchtime from 12.30pm – 1.05pm in the Admin Office (ground floor) – Westcombe Park.

Placements will be given out to students on a first come first served basis. However, there is no guarantee of securing a placement for numerous reasons, such as withdrawal of placement by the organisation. Students are made aware of this possibility, but it is a rare occurrence. This is also an opportunity for students to come and discuss any problems/questions regarding their work experience. I have already informed your child of the above, but would also appreciate you cajoling them into attending please, as I’d like as many of them as possible to have this experience in July.

One of our students, Taedian Baker, will be spending next week at City University on the engineering taster week. This is a fantastic achievement for Taedian and has been a fully deserved reward for all the hard work that he put into his application, not to mention what he has been doing in school.

Elom Nyonator and Alex Wakefield will also be going for interviews next week at NatWest Headquarters to secure their work experience placement for July. The sheer joy that I saw on Elon’s face when I told her that her application was successful has been the highlight of my year so far, as again this opportunity is very well deserved.

Attendance in the year group continues to be very strong and this should be hugely positive for your child’s attainment.

The only negative aspect of this week is the serious lack of homework for a significant minority of Year 10 students of all abilities. I have previously raised this issue as a concern and over the last few weeks, but it has got much worse. It is the serious lack of homework being completed by Year 10 students.

As I’m sure that you are aware, homework is an extension of classwork and it gives students an opportunity to demonstrate independent learning, the understanding of key concepts or the identification of any misconceptions that may exist. If the homework is not completed or it’s rushed or of poor quality, it seriously hinders the progress of your child.

Can I again ask, where necessary, for your support in checking that your child is completing and handing in homework regularly and that the homework is of the required standard. If there is not an improvement in the completion of regular homework and if it’s not up to the required standard then I will have serious reservations concerning the progress of your child, not only for the end of year exams this year, but also for their GCSE exams next year.

I do not like ending on a negative or being negative at all, as they are such a fantastic year group, one that I am immensely proud of, but the status quo cannot continue for this significant minority.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Luke Thomas, Guidance and Achievement Leader for Year 10
Coach Bright Mentoring Sessions are running for the next two Saturdays - 9th and 16th March from 9.15-12.30. Post-graduate students deliver these sessions and they offer small group revision support for Maths and Science.

Year 11 Boat Party – Thursday, 20th June (7.00pm-11.00pm) – you should have already received the below letter – please respond accordingly by the deadlines set.

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in attending the Year 11 Leavers Boat Party on Thursday, 20th June 2019. This is a reward for completing their GCSE's at the John Roan. The cost of the party is £35 or £25 (depending on whether your child receives free school meals). The JRSA have generously given funding so that every student has the opportunity to attend.

Additional information:
- The cost must be paid in full on ParentPay by Tuesday, 4th June 2019. Payments after this date will not be accepted, and your child will not be able to attend. The party will appear on ParentPay at the start of April.
- Behaviour in school both prior and during exams must be excellent. This includes attendance and punctuality to school. The school reserves the right to refuse a student a place on the boat if their behaviour and attendance/punctuality is unacceptable.
- The boat has security guards on-board. Students will be searched prior to boarding. Any student that is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or other substances will be refused entry. Costs will not be refunded if this should happen.
- Students must meet at Greenwich pier at 6.30pm prompt. The boat will be leaving at 7.00pm. Late comers will not be waited for. The boat will return to Greenwich at 11.00pm and students will be dismissed from the pier.
- Payment for the party is non-refundable due to having to pay for the boat prior to the trip.
- Students are required to dress formally (i.e. no jeans etc).
- Snacks i.e. crisps etc will be available on the boat. Students should have dinner prior to the party however.

If you would like your child to attend the Year 11 boat party, please complete the slip on the letter and pay the full amount by the 4th June 2019. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks, Ms Sumner, Year 11 GAL

I am really pleased to share with you two exciting things that took place in the Sixth Form this week. Firstly, all of our Year 12 girls went to a Women in Leadership Careers Conference at Blackheath High School on Tuesday, where they met a number of high profile, successful women who shared their journey and experience with our students. The feedback we got was this day has helped to provide food for thought and inspiration for our students when they think about destinations next year.

Also Penguin Publishing have been in to give a masterclass on careers in publishing for some of our English, Media and Politics students. Again, meeting professionals first hand to answer questions and support our students in terms of careers ideas and experience of the world of
work has proven to be a worthwhile and popular activity supporting personal development for these students.

Mr Williams – Director of Post 16
International Women’s Day - Recommended Reads
To Celebrate International Women’s Day on the 8th March, why not try one of these amazing recommended reads?

For the Right to Learn by Rebecca Langston-George
Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank
Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls by Elena Favilli & Francesca Cavallo
Women in Science by Rachel Ignotofsky
Rebel Voices by Louise K Stewart

British Science Week
British Science Week starts on the 8th March and to celebrate the Libraries are holding two special events:

At WP, we are holding The Big Brain Science Quiz. Where we will be challenging the students with a fiendishly difficult Science quiz and seeing what team can build the biggest brain.

At MH will be holding a Roald Dahl Science Experiment Event featuring Matilda and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory themed activities.

The John Roan Word of the Week
Word: Hypothesis

Definition: an idea or explanation for something that is based on known facts but has not yet been proved.

Example sentence: ‘Several hypotheses for global warming have been suggested’.

Synonyms: theory, premise, proposition

The Weekly Challenge: Use the noun, hypothesis, 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, 12th March
The second informal music concert of the year will take place this Tuesday, 12th March 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.

If your son/daughter has instrumental or singing lessons at school, then please check the timetables that are attached to this newsletter. I will provide these each week for you.

Mr Wright, Head of Music
News from the JRSA

1 JRSA Raffle: ⚡️ Search for Anonymous winner continues! ⚡️

The anonymous donor who won the £50 meal voucher, generously donated by the Mogul Indian Restaurant, with ticket number 110 has still not come forward. If you have ticket number 110 please email JRSA@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk with your Just Giving Acknowledgement and your contact details so that we can give you your prize. PLEASE NOTE that if we do not hear from you within 7 days we will re-draw your prize. If you were an 'Anonymous' donor and you don't know your ticket number please email JRSA (jrsa@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk) with your Just Giving Acknowledgement and we'll work out whether it’s you!

REMINDERS:

- **FREE MONEY** Please register using this unique link [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/FVN3TL/](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/FVN3TL/) or just search for 'The John Roan School Association - Greenwich' and click ‘support us’. **We currently only have 34 supporters registered on easy fundraising & they have raised £250.86.** Let’s see how many more supporters we can get to register and raise more for our school.

---

You shop. Your cause gets money. For free.

Join over 1.6 million people raising free donations at over 3,500 shops and sites every day the easyfundraising way! Over £25 million has already been raised for good causes.

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)