

Our Ref: PRC/JYD

26 May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It has been a short yet intense half term for all staff and students. We are now knee deep into exam season and there feels like a real business like atmosphere around the school. Running an exam season in an exam centre the size of ours is massive so my thanks to all students and staff who follow the rules and make it run smoothly.

It is difficult to ignore the exam pressures at this time of year but as you know the school is far much more, below gives you a snapshot of just *some* of the experiences and achievements of our students beyond the classroom this half term.

- U15 Boys Football City Cup and League Champions- the double!
- Matt Oldfield-Children's Author in to visit
- U16 Newcastle Schools Cup basketball champions
- Y10 students send friendship letters to our elderly community as part of Curriculum Enrichment Day
- Y10 swimmer selected to represent GB at World School Games in Rio de Janeiro this summer
- Y13 student has returned home from Romania with two medals after competing in the Taekwondo European Championships at the end of April 2023
- Five students received offers for Medicine and a further three for Dentistry
- Sixth Form rugby team were represented at the prestigious Rosslyn Park Sevens tournament
- Trips to see The Lion King, Midsummer Night's Dream, Shut Up I'm Dreaming!, Blood Brothers and Noughts and Crosses by the Drama Department
- Year 11 Badminton Regional Champions
- Pyramid Schools Summer Concert performance planning for 4th July
- Numerous trip through the NUFC Foundation including over 50 Princes Trust awards achieved.

Farewell to Year 13

Last week our Year 13 students went on study leave although many still took advantage of coming in and working this week which is great to see. Congratulations to all prize winners at

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the Leavers assembly. We look forward to celebrating the end of the exam period at the Ball and wish you all the very best of luck in your exams and in the future.

Farewell to Year 11

Today our Year 11 students go on study leave and will be dismissed slightly earlier than normal time to ensure a safe departure. Although many will be in and out after half term with boosters, exams or revision. Exam season now seems to start far earlier than I ever remember and finish much later- certainly a marathon rather than a sprint and you can see many of them are ready for the half term break. My message to Year 11s is well done so far, get the right balance of rest and revision over half term and then kick on again for the final few weeks.

We look forward to welcoming many of them back into our Sixth Form but for those who are pursuing other routes; you leave with all our best wishes.

End of academic year

Today is officially the end of our academic year at Gosforth Academy. Our year groups roll to new timetables as of Monday 5th June which allows the new curriculum to start early and September feels less daunting as students are already familiar with their teachers and courses.

School on Monday 5th June is due to start at normal time of 8:40am. This is a slight change from our normal later start and is due to an English GCSE exam due to start at 9am which we want to minimise the disruption of. Current **Year 10 (new Year 11)** students should enter via the **Art entrance** and **current Year 9 (new Year 10)** students should enter via **student entrance**. From there you will be directed to your form room by pastoral staff. **New Year 13** will enter via **S@G entrance** as normal.

Reminder about expectations after half term

Uniform and behaviour has been exemplary this term when often things can go a little awry. We are delighted by the way the students are maturely conducting themselves- they look smart and ready to learn. Just a reminder that after half term, for students in the Main School, any type of jewellery other than a watch will not be permitted. This is something we've been reminding parents and students about since January so shouldn't be a big surprise.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend and thanks as ever for all your support.



Preit Chahal
Principal

