

21 February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be able to welcome you and daughters back after the half term in my capacity as Acting Head Teacher for Virgo Fidelis. I am looking forward immensely to continuing to move the school forward over the next few months in providing the excellence in educational opportunities for your daughter that we are all committed to.

I will be meeting Year 11 parents and carers at 6pm on Monday 5th March at Year 11 Parents' Evening. I know that the girls have been working extremely hard and I hope that the second set of mock exams (Pre-Public Exams) in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science will assist in making them feel even more prepared for their final GCSEs. The outcomes of these mocks will be available on that evening. There is a significant support program in place for Year 11 and I was very pleased to hear their positive comments as they came out of the 'Maximize' inspirational study day on the last Thursday before the half term holiday. Particularly as some students noted that they were 'inspired to revise' following the day!

Sixth form students have recently taken their PPE's which have given pupils and their teachers valuable information about their current levels of performance, the pupils strengths and those areas they need to develop further. As a result, interventions and support are now in place. Additional PPEs for Year 13 will take place prior to Easter and will provide excellent preparation for the external examinations which will take place in little over three months from now.

I look forward also to meeting you all on our second Academic Tutoring Day on Wednesday March 28th and I hope that this day is a most successful one in terms of the progress and attainment that your daughters will have made by this point in the academic year. Equally, we will be hosting our Year 9 Options evening on Wednesday 14th March and I hope to see and meet all of the Year 9 parents and carers at this important evening for your daughter's GCSE choices.

We are here to work for your daughters' success. I am very grateful to the many staff who gave up their half term holiday to come in for extra booster lessons for the Year 11 and 13s and who give up their time during the week at lunchtime and after school also to support your daughters not just with booster classes but in offering a range of different academic and pastoral programs to help them.

Sometimes there may be a specific issue that you would like to discuss with a member of staff and really, the best way to do this is often with a quick email. Many of you are aware that I find this the most effective way to communicate. This is a standard practice of communication in many schools and I encourage you to do so as a first port of call. I want to move the school as far as possible to issuing letters and communication to you via email only (no letters or texts!). This, therefore is the last letter that will be published and sent to parents and carers in hard copy. Please help us to do this by ensuring that your email address is up to date and on our system by emailing your email address/es to our Key Stage 3 and 4 Administrator, Ms Dahlbacka - kdahlbacka@virgofidelis.org.uk . A list of staff emails will be available on the school website shortly.

Once again, I look forward immensely to meeting you all during the course of this half term and thank you very much in advance for your support.



Mrs A Fernandez
Acting Head Teacher