



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

14 December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Many thanks to you all for your support of your Year 11 child right through this long and challenging autumn term. As we all look forward to some well-deserved rest and celebrations over Christmas, I am writing to you about a few matters concerning this very important academic year.

As you know, the students have taken exams in every subject and had feedback from teachers about how they did, and what they need to do to improve. But to help students understand how results day will feel next August, they do not receive overall grades for the November exams until our results afternoon on Tuesday 13 December. The students have an assembly and collect their envelopes containing progress reports and results (to bring home) on Tuesday instead of attending period 6. Parents evening is of course the next day from 5-8pm on School Cloud, so you can ask any questions about your child's current progress.

Some students will be delighted with their grades whilst others may be shocked or disappointed. Please do take the time to discuss the new grades with your child. Subject staff will not set students large amounts of homework for the holidays. However, they will set defined tasks that students should do to warm up for the spring term. Teachers will set work relevant to content or questions that showed up as weaker areas in the recent exams. Completion of these tasks will be rewarded in January.

Your child will continue to sit practice exams in the spring term, to hone exam technique and allow teachers to determine priorities for teaching and revising. Some subject staff may contact you about booster sessions, before or after the school day, at a weekend or during half-term week. Please encourage your son/daughter to take up all the support that is offered. On 19 January we are holding an event for parents and students on making the most of the last term before the real GCSE exams. We hope you will attend the hands-on sessions run by our Directors of English, maths and science. After a short presentation from me, you will work with Directors in smaller groups, to see how students need to revise and practice effectively to achieve the best grades possible at GCSE. In addition, some parents and students will be invited to an appointment that evening with senior staff, for a personalised review of progress. You are always welcome to get in touch with Mr. Clements, your child's form tutor, or me if you have concerns or questions over the next few months.

Year 11 is very demanding, but the students do finish their exams and start a long summer break next June. Please be aware that GCSE exams will go on, depending on student's option subject choices, until Wednesday 21 June 2023 so holidays must not be arranged until after this date. Our Prom 2023 is booked for Thursday 29 June at the Old Thorns Hotel in Liphook, an event we always look forward to. We do have high expectations of our students. Attendance at Prom is dependent on students meeting these expectations in terms of conduct and attendance over the next few months. We do expect attendance of over 90%, ideally 100%, as students' lessons all prepare them for their GCSE exams. Poor behaviour around College is closely monitored and can also result in a student's invitation being removed. Mr Clements will be in touch soon with details regarding payments and arrangements for Prom.

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Do look carefully at our course options for MRC Sixth Form in light of your child's progress on our website. Students should be planning their future studies by now. To inspire them about higher and further education, we have university visits coming up next term for students (dependent on good progress, conduct and attendance). Here are some important dates for your diary, for the next half-term in College.

- Wednesday 4 January, spring term begins for all students
- Tuesday 10 January, English and science exams in College theatre
- Monday 16 January, classroom-based exams begin
- Thursday 19 January, Year 11 How to Revise Evening for parents and students, 6pm
- Monday 23 January, a week of classroom-based practice exams
- Late January/early February, visits to Oxford, Reading and Chichester university tbc
- Thursday 2 February, science exams in College theatre

With best wishes to all for a happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F Lunskey'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'F' and a long, sweeping underline.

Mrs F Lunskey
Assistant Principal Raising Standards