



1 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you well, thank you for all your support in ensuring that students continue to engage well and commit to both their learning and all their extra-curricular activities. A few notices from College are below and some dates for your diary.

Lost Property

There is a significant amount of accumulated but unnamed lost property that needs to be reclaimed from the College. Unfortunately, we cannot store this in school indefinitely due to significant space capacity issues. Events will be held after school this term for students or parents/carers to come and reclaim items:

- Monday 18 March 3.15 - 4.15pm (Main Hall)
- Wednesday 27 March 3.15 - 4.15pm (Main Hall)

However, it is important to note that after the Easter break any remaining items will either be donated to SOHCC or charity. If you believe this may affect you and you have concerns, please contact the College before the Easter holidays.

WhatsApp Groups

We have been made aware that last term a couple of schools had incidents where children were included in groups set up by people not known to them.

It would seem that the default settings on WhatsApp allow strangers to add people to groups, unless they are restricted to do so through people's settings. The links below provide more information on this topic and provide more information that would be worth discussing with your child as well as regular parental monitoring of their group chats and use of social media.

- [How to stop random people from adding you to WhatsApp groups \(androidpolice.com\)](https://www.androidpolice.com)
- [whatsapp.pdf \(onlinesafetyalliance.org\)](https://www.onlinesafetyalliance.org)

Toilet Use in Lesson Time

It would be useful for parents/carers to be aware that we are tracking access to the toilets in lesson time and will be taking action to safeguard learning time for students based on the findings. It is important to state that there are at least 7 times in the day



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when students can access the toilets (before school, social times and briefly between lessons) and we do not expect there to be any need to go during lesson.

Furthermore, after the substantial building works on our provision in College, which opened in January, there are now more toilets than before, there are never queues at social time or between lessons. Staff are advised to allow a grace period of up to 5 minutes before marking students late and therefore the default response will be to not agree release from a lesson. A genuine emergency or medical card will always be respected.

Thank you again for your ongoing support, it is appreciated.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 4 House Competition - Battle of the Boards (4-8 March)	
Monday 4 March	Year 8 Wild Science Event
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day Events Open Morning - booking is essential
Friday 15 March	Year 8 Author Visit
Monday 18 March	Broadbridges Uniform (3.15-4.15pm) Link Hall Lost Property Reclaim (3.15-4.15pm) Main Hall
Thursday 21 March	Year 10 Virtual Subject Feedback Evening
Wednesday 27 March	Year 9 Wider Curriculum Day: Employability Skills Lost Property Reclaim (3.15-4.15pm) Main Hall Sixth Form Quiz
Thursday 28 March	End of Term 4
Friday 29 March - Friday 12 April	Easter Holiday
Monday 15 April	Start of Term 5