



17 October 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope you are well, this week we are providing a brief update on College life and community prior to the full edition of Headlines next week which celebrates the rich range of activities and achievements from students during Term 1.

Sponsored Walk

I am delighted to share the news that students and staff have made huge efforts to ensure that in a tight window of time, we have been able to complete the Sponsored Walk raising money for Mental Health and Well-Being support. We are grateful to Heathfield Park for enabling us to use the beautiful surroundings of this nearby location to demonstrate the power of being outside as well as our collective action for good.

Students and the community have been phenomenal at raising over £5,500 at the time of going to print but it is still rising! We will confirm the total and intended use of these funds as soon as we are able.

On the same day the 6th Form went full “Wear it Pink” raising money for Breast Cancer Now, selling cakes and playing music in the Main Hall at break for younger students and running a photobooth and playing bingo in the LRC at lunch. We are so proud of them all and grateful for your help. This is such a positive testimony to the culture, ethos and community of the College.

Update on Site Security

There is much I cannot comment on due to ongoing legal processes. However, I can inform parents that this week I have had three further meetings with ESCC and continue to press for binding securities that support our students and our community.

We will continue with our restricted access for site security until half term and will review it in line with external advice at that point. I fully appreciate that for some this is frustrating and inconvenient, however, that is our non-negotiable position, endorsed by external ESCC advice, in order to safeguard staff and students until I can be confident of lasting outcomes.



Distinguished School



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Headteacher: Ms Caroline Barlow B.A. (Hons)

Social Media

WhatsApp Groups and Messaging Apps

Please be aware of WhatsApp's ability for young people to be included in groups they have not actively chosen to join. Other social media apps also provide a venue for young people to exchange communication they might not when adults are present.

Please be alert and monitor usage out of school, do make us aware of anything that you think could affect the wellbeing or focus of your child in school. Always report harassment, bullying or malicious content to the Police and keep us informed.

General Advice

Some parents have asked for advice on how to manage language and tone they have seen about local schools on social media. Our position has always been that the College does not engage as this is not how solutions are reached or students supported. Routes to constructive dialogue with our College are well documented in the Communication Guidance on our website. Other schools will have their own approaches. Advice to parents who want to take action would mirror that given to students about managing their feeds and includes:

- Reporting issues to the site admin, who have been clear that posts about schools are not appropriate.
- Block content that is inappropriate.
- Reporting defamatory and malicious content to the Police.

The College, along with other local schools have also taken these actions where necessary.

Lost Property Reclaim

Throughout next week students who believe they may have missing items in lost property should reclaim them during break or lunch time in the Link Hall.

On Wednesday 23 October, between 3:30pm and 4:30pm, the remaining items will be displayed for parents to see if the missing items are there. Please report to the pedestrian gate for direction and admission to site.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

OPEN MORNINGS

Year 6 Families & Students Only

21, 22, 23 & 25 October 2024

Booking is essential for these Open Mornings

Please contact: office@heathfieldcc.co.uk or 01436 866066 Ext 1200

Sixth Form Open Mornings

4 and 6 November 2024

Booking is essential for these Open Mornings

Please contact: 6application@heathfieldcc.co.uk or 01436 866066 Ext 1200

Date	Event	Time
21 October	Supercurricular Fortnight (Week 1)	
24 October	Sixth Form Open Evening	5.30-7.30pm
25 October	End of Term 1	
4 November	Start of Term 2	
7 November	Year 9 Curriculum Evening Moving to KS4	5.30-6.30pm
8 November	Year 7 - 11 Flu Vaccinations	