



Broadoak NEWS

DECEMBER 2017



Time has indeed flown and I cannot believe we are nearly at the Christmas holidays. The last half term has been a busy one with Year 7 and 8 really getting into their stride, Year 9 starting to think about their GCSE option choices, Year 10 getting to grips with their GCSE courses and Year 11 working hard towards their pre-public exams ready for the final push towards their GCSEs from January onwards.

Of course, we also welcomed an Ofsted inspection team and it would be an understatement to say I was incredibly proud of the students, staff, parents and our wider community in the way we came together during the inspection. Broadoak is a fantastic community which will undoubtedly grow and flourish if we continue to work together in such a positive way. There is a separate section in the newsletter dedicated to the inspection report itself.

Broadoak certainly has talent!

Many of you attended the performances of The Wiz and what performances they were. The students and staff put their heart and soul into the show and we have had so many glowing comments and reviews it is truly heart-warming. Everyone is already wondering what will next year's show be and how will it top The Wiz? A huge thank you to all involved but in particular the performing arts staff and, of course, the performers and backstage crew.

Reading Matters

Many of you whom I have had to chance to talk to will know I am extremely passionate about reading and look to promote it in as many ways as possible. A young person's ability to read, and read well, impacts their opportunities right across the curriculum and beyond. Young people do not always have the vocabulary they need and this can affect their life chances so exposure to words, words and more words is something I am very keen on. It's also rather lovely to escape into a book as well!

With this in mind, Broadoak is delighted to now have a Patron of Reading, the author Mimi Thebo, and she will be working with our Year 8s over the coming year. As well as this we have whole school Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) sessions where we all read together. Our most recent one used Patrick Ness' *A Monster Calls* – a stunning book which I heartily recommend to you all. There was also a wonderful book giveaway this term which saw books wrapped up and hidden around the school for students to find and keep. There was a lot of excitement created and I hope many of your sons/daughters got to find one.

The library is running a tutor competition to read your height in books and also has a wonderful display of recommendations for books to read – perhaps encourage your son/daughter to take some books home over the holiday period to read or, if you are able to, give books as a gift.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss

Twilight training – behaviour management and attendance

As part of our commitment to share what we are looking at during inset sessions, you'll be interested to note that we have had two evening twilight sessions this term based on managing behaviour and on managing attendance.

There will be changes to our behaviour management system over the coming year to minimise the disruption to learning that can be caused by the tiny minority of students who do not follow the college's personal best expectations. We began our discussion around this and when plans are firmed up we will certainly share with parents and carers.

From January, the college will be using a new attendance tracking system which will provide tutors and Heads of Year with readily accessible and dynamic data. It will be used to identify patterns around attendance and offer praise for the majority who attend well and evidence for discussion and action where students are not attending as well. Our view is that attendance is everyone's business from the Headteacher, Head of Year, tutor, student, parent/carers to the classroom teacher too. Together we make the difference!

WomenEd/Women Leading In Education event

Broadoak was delighted to host the first WomenEd and Women Leading In Education South West event in North Somerset aimed at tackling inequality in education. The evening was well-attended with colleagues from across North Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucester gathering to hear how we can make changes in our recruitment to retain, attract and develop the best teachers to our schools, how we can instil confidence in our students especially young women, how male advocacy for equality is important and how we can check our own language and practices to make sure we are being as inclusive as possible. It was certainly a thought provoking event for all involved.

Bringing the classics to Broadoak

We were tremendously proud of a trio of Year 8s who entered Bristol University's Ovid in the West competition this term with an incredibly creative rendering of Pandora's Box. They went to the university and competed against several other secondary schools. We were thrilled that their entry was 'highly commended' and Miss Anniuk was one proud teacher.

Building on these links, Broadoak is pleased to have joined forces with Classics for All and later this year we will launch Broadoak's Latin club. Exciting times ahead and if any students want to register an interest then please say 'salve' to Miss Evans in MFL!

Some fond farewells

In January we'll be saying goodbye to Sam Gray who has been teaching Maths here at Broadoak for the last 5 years. He will be missed by his colleagues and students but we wish him well and know he will thoroughly enjoy his new adventures in China.

We will also be saying a huge thank you to John Brock, who has been our Chair of Governors, as he steps down after more than twenty years of service to the school. When I first started at Broadoak, John indicated his desire to step aside after his years of dedication to our community and was intending to resign next summer. After some reflection John feels that now is the appropriate time to step down to allow a new Chair to take the school forward on the next phase of its improvement journey. John has always been, and remains, a tremendous supporter of Broadoak and its students – we will mark the moment appropriately in January but we would like to extend our sincere thanks to him for his tireless support, integrity and belief in the college.

Sue Marshall will take on the role of Chair of Governors for Broadoak College from January onwards.

Here's to 2018

I wish you all a peaceful holiday and I am excited about what 2018 will bring for the Broadoak community.

Kindest wishes,

Ms K McGillycuddy, Headteacher

Ofsted report

Ofsted gave Broadoak an overall rating of 'requires improvement'. Their assessment of our school (which can be downloaded via the link <http://www.broadoakcollege.org.uk/ofstedreport>) was in line with our own evaluation – with the areas to improve outlined in the report having already been identified by the school and an improvement plan already in place. The report clearly recognises the progress we have made over recent months, such as the raising of expectations across the college and the improvement in attendance rates, and outlines those areas where we must focus our efforts in order to improve further.

The inspectors are confident that the school leadership team has a clear focus on ensuring that students make the progress expected of them, and that staff are fully committed to rapidly raising standards. The report also recognises that more substantial progress is now being made including that children who are looked after make good progress and students with special needs are also making better progress.

We are delighted that the broad range of extra-curricular activities we offer have been recognised and valued. More importantly, we are very pleased that our safeguarding is noted as effective and that students feel well-informed and safe in school.

It is with great pride we should note that Broadoak students are polite, courteous and respectful and that the vast majority of our parents expressed their appreciation of the care taken to look after their children's welfare.

As the report notes, we are tireless in exploring ways to help pupils and positive signs of improvement were seen due to the comprehensive plans for change we are putting in place. We are confident about the future and look forward to working with you on our improvement journey.

We are holding an event for parents on Tuesday 9th January at 6.30-7pm where I will be available to discuss the report along with members of the leadership team and governors. Please contact my PA, Ms Docherty on enquiries@broadoak.n-somerset.sch.uk to register your intention to attend.

Polite request from our neighbours - parking

Please take care not to park in front of our neighbour's driveways if you are dropping off or collecting your child from school. In the few instances this has happened, some of our neighbours have been unable to get to work or to medical appointments. Please be considerate – our neighbours are great friends and supporters of the school. Thank you.

Update on fizzy drinks/energy drinks

Your support has been tremendous and students have responded incredibly well, as they always do, to our request to not have sugary fizzy drinks or energy drinks in school. Interestingly, just this last week there was a call for a national ban on energy drinks in schools because of its detrimental effect on young people. National newspapers and some of the teaching unions echoed our concerns about the impact of the drinks so we should be pleased we have taken a positive step to address this.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that our Breakfast Club is open to all students from 8.00 – 8.30am serving a variety of items to kick start students' days!

Free School meals

From January 2018, please be aware that North Somerset Local Authority will be changing the Free School Meal application system so that parents / carers only need to apply online 3 times per year rather than 6 as the system currently stands.

Please visit <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/schoolmeals/freeschoolmeals/> for further details and updates.

Headteacher surgery

As promised, please find below dates and times that parents can pop in to discuss any concerns they may have or just to touch base about their son/daughter.

- **3.30 – 5.00pm Monday 22nd January 2018**
- **3.30 – 5.00pm Monday 5th March 2018**
- **3.30 – 5.00pm Monday 4th May 2018**
- **3.30 – 5.00pm Monday 25th June 2018**

In order that I can ensure sufficient time is available please email my PA, Ms Docherty, to book in at fd@broadoak.n-somerset.sch.uk

I look forward to seeing you.

YOUNG WRITERS POETRY COMPETITION.

Every year, Young Writers UK hosts a poetry competition. This year there were over 13,000 entries nationwide for *The Poetry Games: Truth or Dare?* We are extremely thrilled that a number of our students have made the Top 50 and have been chosen for publication. A huge well done to Hannah 8S, Amelia 8S and Alan 9S on becoming published poets.

OVID IN THE WEST COUNTRY

Bristol University's School of Education and UWE joined forces to run the inaugural Ovid in The West Country competition.



Students were asked to respond creatively (in any medium) to any one of a selection of tales from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

On Wednesday 6th December 2017, the university hosted a prize-giving event at the Wills Memorial Building. We are absolutely delighted that our Year 8 team came top of the Highly Commended category for their imaginative recreation of Pandora's Box.

The competition was part of an initiative set up by the Cambridge Schools Classics Project to promote Classics in state schools. The Bristol Classics Hub collaborated with the School of Education to run the competition for Year 7 and 8 students from local schools. The schools involved were Wyedean, Patchway, Broadoak, St Katherine's and Orchard.



UNIVERSITY CENTRE WESTON

50 Year 8 students took part in a taster day at the University Centre Weston. It proved to be a very interesting and valuable day in which the students took part in a variety of activities including child care studies, make up and cosmetics, sport, science, dance and drama.

These students are now more in the picture about what higher education is all about and the great majority of them said that they would now be considering university as an option as a result of the day.



SAFETY ONLINE

The Children's Commissioner for England and TES have produced simplified terms and conditions for Instagram, WhatsApp, YouTube, Snapchat and Facebook to help parents and carers support their children to manage their rights and privacy online. These can be found here:

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/digital-citizenship>

EMERGENCY CPR

All Year 8 students are now fully trained in how to deliver emergency CPR. The British Heart Foundation provided free kit bags and resources and the year 8 tutors delivered the training during PSHCE lessons this term. It was a very worthwhile exercise and it's nice to know that we have Broadoak students in our midst who could be very useful in an emergency!



THE WIZ

Unfortunately, if you missed it, no amount of heel clicking will take you back to Oz to see what has been described as an amazing, brilliant, fantastic, inspiring, energetic, and entertaining school production.

Students from all years took to the Broadoak stage for three consecutive nights to perform Charlie Smalls' The Wiz based on a book by William Brown (an adaptation of the classic children's novel 'The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz' by Frank Baum).



The stunning cast was headed up by non-other than our Head Girl, Madison, playing the lead role of Dorothy. With such a large number of very talented auditionees we were able to double cast some of the leading roles, making this the largest principle cast Broadoak has had for a musical production. Every week since May, students have been rehearsing with; Mrs Aves, Mrs Harvey, Ms Back, Miss Coleman, and Mr Bache, and it was clear from the high standard of performance, to a full house each night, that the commitment and hard work paid off.



The solo songs were outstanding this year, even though for some, it was their debut vocal performance and the energy in the whole cast numbers from start to finish captured the audience who on occasions, even joined in!

This year the show boasted its new Periaktoi, a triangular rotating set - built by the technology department, that will be used in shows for many years to come and the textiles department got involved in making costumes and preparing our yellow brick road.



A huge 'CONGRATULATIONS!!' is sent from the Performing Arts Team to every student who took part, both on and off the stage, and we would like to take the opportunity to thank both staff and parents for all your support over the months leading up to the show, but more importantly for coming out to watch the show.

We're looking forward to announcing the next show but in the meantime, don't miss the opportunity to see some of our performers again and more in the Christmas Carol Concert 6pm at St Paul's Church on Monday 18th December.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On Wednesday 13th December students and staff celebrated Christmas in style with our annual Christmas Jumper day. Coinciding with a delicious Christmas dinner being served in the canteen students and staff were invited to wear a festive jumper to get in the Christmas spirit. Voluntary donations were invited and we raised £282 for Weston Foodbank



We would also like to thank Miss Back who has collected food parcels from staff and students for the Foodbank. This very worthwhile charity provides emergency food and support to local people and is supported by The Trussell Trust, combating poverty and hunger across the UK.

YEAR 8 NETBALL

A squad of eleven players represented the school at the North Somerset Tournament, held at a very chilly Backwell School. They were drawn in a very difficult pool which contained the eventual winners and runners-up. Despite losing their matches they continued to play as a team and supporting and encouraging each other. Other schools were very jealous of the team blankets which were put to very good use.

YEAR 7 NETBALL TOURNAMENT

- The Year 7 Netball team represented the school at the Netball tournament on the 7th December. The team were an absolute credit to the school, behaviour was excellent and they were very quick to change teams around in a very short period of time. We unfortunately lost to both Priory and Backwell, but drew against Gordano and won against Churchill. The girls played very well and showed great focus and determination. I am really proud of all of them and would also like to thank all those who attend training every week, you have all made fantastic progress and are a pleasure to have!



The team; Erin, Izzy, Amelia, Faith, Ella, Kara, Jess, Evie, Danni & Christina.

YEAR 9/10 GIRLS RUGBY



A group of experienced club players were invited to attend a coaching session at Hornets Rugby Club by Bristol Rugby. This has allowed us to invite Bristol Rugby to Broadoak for twelve coaching sessions. This is aimed at girls who are interested in playing rugby but who are not members of clubs. We are hoping to begin the training sessions on Monday 22nd January 2018, 3pm - 4.15pm. Taster sessions will be offered to classes beforehand to give an idea of what to expect.

ICESCAPE

On Thursday 14th December, 33 Year 9 students went ice skating at the Tropicana. It was a fantastic afternoon with lots of top notch skating and some equally top notch falling over! A special thanks to Mr Giles for skating with Miss Evans and to Mrs Downes and Miss Annuik who supervised the bags in the cold.



CHRISTMAS BAKE OFF

30 Year 7 and 8 students competed in the Christmas Bake Off on Thursday 14th December.

It was a room full of icing, sparkles and festive spirit.

The students worked in pairs or threes and had 90 minutes to prepare, bake and present their Christmas creations.

We had melted snowman brownies, Christmas trees, snow man biscuits and even Vegan gingerbread men.

The creativity, organisation and effort that the students and Mrs Cox put into the evening was fantastic and the final outcomes were judged by Ms McGillicuddy, Ms Gundry and Mr Knight.



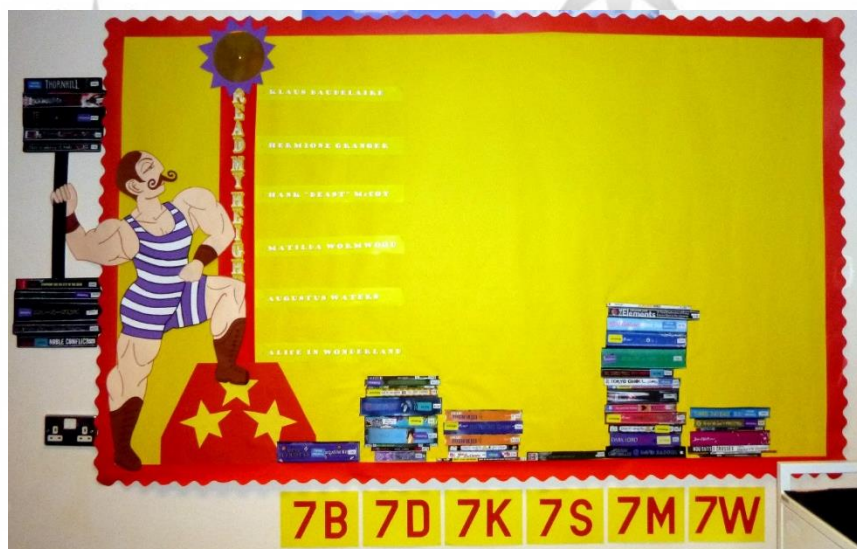
Winners were: Matthew, Rylie, Faith, Ava, Olivia, Sophie-Ann, Mia, Harmani, Beth, and Caeila



READ MY HEIGHT

This year's Year 7 Reading Challenge has been taking place during term 2 and into term 3. Each tutor group is competing with each other to become the Year 7 Reading Champions 2017.

Students need to read a book and then complete a short review to get the book added to their class totalizer in the LRC. There are 6 targets to reach based on famous characters from children's literature, known for being keen readers such as Augustus Waters from *A Fault in Our Stars*, Matilda Wormwood from Roald Dahl's *Matilda* and Harry Potter's best friend Hermione Granger.



So far 7M are in the lead, but there is still time for the other groups to catch up!

SCHOLASTIC TEEN BOOK CLUB

We would like to thank all families who purchased books from the recent Scholastic Teen Book Club magazine. As usual, there were lots of great bargains to be had, which I'm sure helped a little with Christmas shopping. Many fantastic books like the latest from David Walliams, *Murder on the Orient Express*, and *The Periodic Table* were purchased and every for every £1 spend Broadoak receives 20 pence to spend on books for our library.

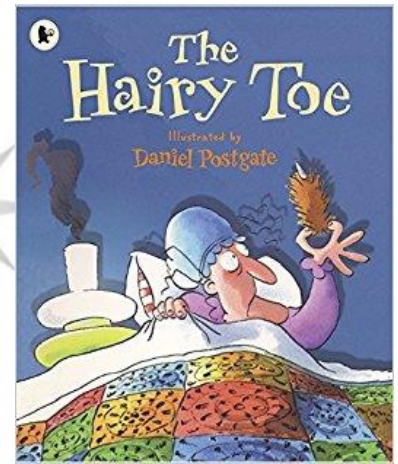
We are also planning a Book Fair to be in school this spring from 15th March for five days – further information to follow.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY - BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Reading is a vital part of your child's education and in the LRC we are always looking for new ways to encourage students to read something new. This Christmas staff have made recommendations for books they think students will love. Students can pop into the LRC to see the recommendations on our Christmas display.

WHERE'S MY HAIRY TOE?

Year 7 and 8 students took part in an inter-tutor group poetry competition at the start of this month. Each group spent time practising a chorale performance of 'The Hairy Toe' which was then performed in front of Head Judge Harvey, Judge Pratlett and Judge Morse! The quality of the performances was very high and each group received lots of praise from the judges. The overall winners were 7D and 8M.



CHRISTMAS STORIES

On Friday 15th December six prefects visited Uphill Community Primary School, Rainbow class, to read them a selection of Christmas Stories. The prefects, suitably dressed and prepped, split into pairs, and read a book each to a group of reception children.

Cosied up on the rug, in an array of festive jumpers, and



plenty of enthusiasm, the rainbow students listened with awe, and plenty of questions and pointers! What would Wibbly Pig's Aunt knit him this year? Would Mary and Joseph ever find an Inn to stay at? As well as eager renditions of Jingle Bells and a who's who of their own Nativity.

All in all everyone involved had a fantastic time, the Rainbow Class gave great applause and the Uphill staff commented on how brave and wonderful the

Broad oak Prefects were. The prefects themselves were wonderful. Reading clearly, answering all manner of questions, and dutifully explaining all the pictures!



Thank you to Miss Anniuk for arranging the trip, and well done to the prefects; Josh B, Alyx C, Juanna G, Emily H, Nina M and Nick T, for their Christmas Stories.

YEAR 8 AND 9 BOOKS HOME

This term parents of Year 8 and 9 students had the opportunity to look through exercise books when students participated in the Books Home event.

Many parents wrote to us to share their thoughts and responses to the work that they had seen. It was wonderful to hear so many parents show an appreciation of the students' work as well as the helpful feedback produced by teachers:

"I am impressed with my daughter's progress and also her neatness."

"The opportunity to review the books is a good idea. It lets us see what is being taught and the feedback my son is receiving from his teachers."

"I really like and admire the work that my son has undertaken in Technology."

"I think the quality of marking and feedback is superb."

"Thank you to all the teachers for the support."

"I am pleased to see that my daughter's spelling errors are picked up."

"She appears to be achieving well academically and her presentation is very neat. She is also happy at school and has settled socially."

"Books are well marked with feedback from teachers. It's nice to see that pupils are encouraged to respond to teacher's feedback"

Next term, Year 7 parents will also have the opportunity to see the work that students have produced at the College. We also hope that parents of older students take the opportunity to look through books which will be available at parents' evenings and in preparation for Pre-Public Exams.

SAFEGUARDING

At Broadoak, we recognise and embrace our role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE September 2016) makes it clear that all staff have a safeguarding responsibility. Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcome

Our Child Protection lead staff include:-

- Ms E Gundry (Deputy Head, Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mr T Kirkby (Assistant Head, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs R Whitehouse (SENCO, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

The Designated Governor and Deputy Designated Governor for Child Protection are Mr John Brock and Mr Leigh Morris. All staff in the College receive regular training to ensure that they can fulfil their safeguarding role. We encourage all parents/carers to contact us if concerned about a child.



Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

The NSPCC website provides a wealth of information for parents/carers about a range of Safeguarding issues. This can be found at the link <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS/CARERS

We continue to move forward with electronic mail to parents/carers. Not only cost effective and environmentally friendly but in our experience, a quicker and more efficient way to communicate.

If you have an email address and would like us to communicate with you electronically and have not yet signed up to “Schoolcomms”, please contact Mrs Vernon at Broadoak on (01934) 422000.

PERSONAL BEST EXPECTATIONS

We are very proud of the behaviour and conduct of students, in and out of College. Visitors to Broadoak always comment on how polite and positive our young people are.

We have trialled some changes to the Behaviour Policy this term, to further promote the very highest standards in the classroom. Behaviour points have not been visible to parents/carers this term via the School Gateway; we have focussed on sharing positive achievement points instead, making contact directly if there have been concerns. A number of requests have been made for the behaviour points to also be visible and so they can now also be seen on the Gateway.

Please do contact your child’s tutor or Year Leader if you have any questions or concerns.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

The Performing Arts Team have been especially busy this term. With the production of The Wiz over, staff and students have been busy rehearsing for this year's Charity Carol Concert held once again at St Paul's Church. This year it features a variety of performances from soloists, to vocal and instrumental ensembles interspersed with readings and Carols, all in aid of raising money for Foodbank.

Year 7 have been developing their vocal and note-reading skills in lessons to prepare two traditional African songs and Shakira's 'Try Everything' from the animated film 'Zootropolis' for which they will be joined by the Senior choir.

For the first time we invited students and staff to enter our Christmas Creative Writing Competition with the winner's piece of work being performed as part of the concert. I am delighted to announce that the winner was Olivia in year 9 with 'A Christmas Poem'. A delightful poem about all the fun festive events around Christmastime.

Keep an eye out in the next newsletter for snapshots of our favourite moments from the concert.

BROADOAK UNIFORM

We are always very proud of how smart our students look, both in college and in the community. We appreciate all the support of parents and carers to ensure that students are wearing the correct uniform. The photos below highlight expected standards of uniform and we look forward to your continued support in sending students to school during the year in correct uniform.

With the colder weather, we would like to remind you that only black, V-neck style jumpers are permitted under blazers. No round neck or hoodies please.



Uniform 2016/17 – Acceptable Trouser/Skirt Guidance

Examples of trouser and skirt styles that are acceptable.

Trousers must be black, tailored and straight, not excessively tight or tapered. They should be of a sensible length and 'sit on the shoe'.

Skirts should be black, tailored and be of a length no shorter than the top of the knee.



Uniform 2016/17 – Unacceptable Trouser/Skirt Guidance

Examples of trouser and skirt styles that are unacceptable and must not be worn.

Trousers must not be shiny, leggings, made of denim or stretchy fabric.

Skirts must not be made of stretchy fabric, must not be tight or above the knee.



Uniform 2016/17 – Acceptable Footwear Guidance

Examples of shoe styles that are acceptable.

These plain black shoes are of a suitable design that can be polished and offer protection against inclement weather, spillages and other accidents in subjects like technology and science.



Uniform 2016/17 – Unacceptable Footwear Guidance

Examples of shoe styles that are unacceptable and must not be worn.

These styles offer little protection, are generally canvas or trainer style and have brand logos, markings or the words 'no trainers', 'boots', 'casual shoes', 'docs' or 'high heels'.



Please also remember that whilst trainer-style shoes are sold in some shops as school shoes, they do NOT meet Broad Oak uniform requirements. If you have any questions, please contact your child's Head of Year. All branded uniform can be purchased through NK Sports.

PIERCINGS

We would also remind you of the rules regarding jewellery and piercings:-

Under no circumstances are facial piercings acceptable. Students are only allowed 2 studs in their lower lobe.

TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

TERM 2

Inset Day (college closed to students)	Monday	30	October 2017
Start (for students)	Tuesday	31	October 2017
End	Tuesday	19	December 2017 (12.25pm finish)

TERM 3

Start	Thursday	4	January 2018
End	Friday	9	February 2018

TERM 4

Start	Monday	19	February 2018
End	Friday	23	March 2018

TERM 5

Start	Monday	9	April 2018
Bank Holiday	Monday	7	May 2018
End	Friday	25	May 2018

TERM 6

Start	Monday	4	June 2018
End	Friday	20	July 2018 (12.25pm finish)