



17th October 2018

Dear Parent,

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to share with you my thoughts about our first half-term in our brand new building. It has been great to see our Year 12 students settle into their new school so quickly. Equally, Year 13 students have made a smooth transition to their new year and new building.

Year 12 students on the A Level Pathway enjoyed a fun afternoon at Adrenaline in September. All of the students got stuck in and we took the opportunity to get to know each other a little better.

Many of the Year 13 students have been working hard on their UCAS applications; with those applying to Medicine, Dentistry and Oxbridge having submitted their applications last week. Thank you for your support in helping them to decide which institutions and courses to apply to. We can't wait to hear news of the offers they receive!

Many of our Year 12 and 13 students are in the process of securing work placements and some of these have already embarked on these placements. Whilst we cannot apply for placements for the students, Mrs Humpherson is available for support with finding and securing placements. If your son/daughter is yet to pursue a placement please encourage them to see her the week after half term (she is based in GF6).

This week all Sixth Form students had training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation as part of the National Restart a Heart Day. External speakers this half term have included an Occupational Therapist who came in to talk to the students about 15 different Allied Health Professions and an Operating Department Practitioner who delivered a session on a day in the life of a ODP. Many year 12 students have also signed up for an Allied Health Professions showcase at Plymouth University and/or the Radiotherapy Open Evening at Derriford Hospital which they are looking forward to attending tomorrow.

Over half term break some students have signed up for The VIVIT Experience at City College, where they will get to witness a semi-synthetic autopsy!

Looking forward to the Christmas term, I will be escorting a group of students to a Health Courses Open Day at Plymouth University and we will also have talks in school on Occupational Therapy and Adult Nursing.

Our end of Cycle 1 Assessments commence the w/b Monday 5th November. I can't stress enough the importance of our students setting aside some time each day to revise over the half term break. As Head of the A Level Pathway, I will be recognising and rewarding success once the assessment results are in. I will also be putting intervention in place for those students who need additional support to achieve.

Our first half term has been exciting, challenging and rewarding and we look forward to the opportunities that next term will bring.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Laura Wilkinson
Head of A Level Pathway