# From the Headmaster

The half term holiday is upon us and ends with two bank holidays and Platinum Jubilee celebrations. I know our Year 11 and Year 13 students remain busy revising for their examinations, but I do hope that they schedule in some time out to enjoy the holiday, get some fresh air and look after their mental health in what can be a stressful period. It is heartening to hear that exams seem to have gone well so far and I am ever grateful to colleagues for continuing to support pupils at such a critical stage in their learning.

On the subject of examinations, I would like to congratulate our Year 8s and Year 9s for the way in which they approached their 'internal' exams. It is my firm belief that establishing good habits now prepares them well for GCSEs and A levels.

### **Business Networking Event**

Thank you to those who came along to our successful Business Networking event on 13 May, and to former Cheltenham Town FC Captain Shane Duff for being our keynote speaker. Our next meeting is planned for October, with a digital technology and cyber careers focus. If you work in these areas or run a tech sector business and would like to register your interest in attending, please contact Sara Vielvoye: sjv@strs.org.uk.

## **Race Night Fundraiser for Tour**

The Canada Tour takes place in mid-July with the Netball and Rugby teams heading off for what promises to be a truly memory making experience. A Race Night and Auction fundraiser is taking place at school on the evening of Friday 24 June, £6 a ticket.

### **Book Race Night Tickets**

### **Summer Concert 8 July 7.30pm**

Our end of year concert is planned for Friday 8 July, with a packed programme of excellent musical entertainment planned. If you haven't managed to attend many school events over the last couple of years, it really will be one worth attending and a great way to celebrate the end of the school year. Parents of Year 13 students are most welcome to attend!

## **Book Summer Concert Tickets**

### **Parking**

Unfortunately, we are receiving an increasing number of complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking in the areas around the school. If your child drives a car to school, please could you ask them to be particularly careful when parking on residential streets, and to be especially careful not to block or partially block driveways, or to park on corners or on pavements. Thank you for your help with this, it is much appreciated.

## **Key Dates**

Friday 24 June - Race Night and Auction

Thursday 7 July - Sports' Evening

Friday 8 July - Summer Concert

Wed 13 July-Friday 15 July - Summer Term Drama Production "Our Day Out"

Thursday 21 July - end of summer term

Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 September - INSET days; staff only

Wednesday 7 September - Autumn term starts for Years 7 and Year 12

Thursday 8 September – Autumn term starts for Years 8-11 and Year 13

#### **Finally**

Yesterday Members of Parliament paid tribute to Her Majesty the Queen ahead of the Jubilee celebrations. Elizabeth II became Queen at the age of 25 on 6 February 1952, with her coronation taking place just over a year later on 2 June 1953. In a life of significant milestones, the Queen is the longest reigning monarch and has been served by 14 UK prime ministers, made over 150 Commonwealth visits, been featured on the coins of 35 countries and has sat for over 200 portraits. In 1986, Her Majesty became the first British monarch to visit the Chinese mainland; in 2011 she was the first reigning monarch to visit Ireland since its separation from the United Kingdom in 1921. In her speech at Dublin Castle, she reminded those assembled of the importance of forbearance and conciliation, of being able to bow

to the past but not be bound by it acknowledging that with the benefit of historical hindsight, we can all see things which we would wish had been done differently or not at all.

Sir Keir Starmer remarked yesterday that we celebrate Her Majesty this year, "not just because of all that she has done, not just because of how long she has done it for, but because of the way that she has done it" and whether you choose to celebrate the Jubilee bank holiday weekend or not, I think we can all accept that it is not just what we do but how we do things that is so important.

I wish everyone good health and a pleasant and relaxing week.

M. SK Morgan.

Matthew Morgan HEADMASTER

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