



SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Oakleaze, Gloucester

From the Deputy Headteacher

Dear Parents

Pupil Wellbeing Survey

To help us continue to provide sensitive and appropriate pastoral support to your son or daughter, we have asked pupils to complete a further Pupil Wellbeing Survey during Tutor Time. The survey repeated the questions that were asked at the start of the academic year, to obtain pupil views on how proud they are to be a member of the School, how safe they feel and how motivated they are to do well, as well as their views on behaviour, bullying and the accessibility of pastoral support. We are grateful to pupils for completing these surveys, and we will use the results to further enhance our provision at Sir Thomas Rich's.

A reminder that pupils can access support from their Form Tutor, our Pastoral Support Assistants, Head of Year or Head of Key Stage at any time.

The contact information below is also publicised around the School and in each form room:

Head of Year 7: Mr J Payne – jnp@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 8: Mrs C Rigby-Smith – cer@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 9 / Senior Head of Year (Key Stage 3): Mr Z Hinds – zfh@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 10: Mrs J Robinson – jrr@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 11: Mr D Tilley – dpt@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 12: Mr W Marks – wrm@strs.org.uk

Head of Year 13: Mrs R Downes – rad@strs.org.uk

Senior Head of Year (Sixth Form): Miss E Jauncey – elj@strs.org.uk

Pastoral Support Assistant: Mrs G Filipkova – gvf@strs.org.uk

Pastoral Support Assistant: Mrs C Roberts – car@strs.org.uk

Head of Key Stages 3 and 4: Mr P Daniell – pmd@strs.org.uk

Head of Sixth Form: Mr A Williams – aiw@strs.org.uk

Mental Health Champions Award

I would like to make you aware that the School is currently working with Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning (GHLL) to achieve the *Mental Health Champions Award*.

The *Mental Health Champions Award* has been created to acknowledge:

- The high-quality provision that schools make to support the mental health and well-being of their school community.
- The link between good mental health and achievement.
- The importance of staff mental health and wellbeing.
- The awareness of, and openness about mental health issues and the greater prominence of support needed for this significant health priority.

We are very grateful to Mrs Garcia (Head of PSHE) for gathering the extensive range of evidence required for the upcoming GHLL inspection visit on 29 June.

Parental Support

Teens in Crisis (TIC+) would like to share information regarding free *Parent Support Groups* that are running for parents/carers of children between the ages of 11-18 within Gloucestershire.

The groups are designed to inform and support parents by giving guidance on how to understand their son or daughter's distress and discover effective strategies to improve their resilience. The group is also an opportunity for parents going through similar experiences to encourage, support and learn from each other in a safe and friendly environment.

Details of the upcoming support groups can be found below, although places are currently limited:

21 June – 10.30am – 12.00pm – Cheltenham – <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/621670993677>

21 June – 7.00pm – 8.30pm – Gloucester – <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/620761904567>

All details are also available on the TIC+ website:

<https://www.ticplus.org.uk/parents-carers/parent-carer-support-groups/>

Future dates for September 2023 will be available from TIC+. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact TIC+ directly.

House System

The competition for the Cock House Cup remains a tight race. Southgate has a narrow lead on 43 points, Northgate follows with 41, then Eastgate on 40 and Westgate on 21. The remaining events taking place after half term are Tennis, Cricket and the annual Sports' Evening. These events will be crucial in deciding the winning House for 2022-23.

This term we have also been reviewing the House System to see how it can be improved to take account of the fact that the School is now five-form entry in Year 7. In order to bring back the inter-form competitive nature of the House System, we have been carefully considering running next year's competition with five Houses, instead of four.

Having surveyed staff and students and delivered assemblies to all students on the proposed change, the School community is unanimously in favour of adding a fifth house to the House System from September 2023. The results of the surveys concluded that the preference would be to add the new House to all year groups from September. The impact of this will be that some pupils will be reallocated into different Houses, based on their form group, for the start of the 2023-24 competition; pupil-voice was overwhelmingly in support of this.

We are currently reviewing all survey responses to make a definitive decision on the finer details, such as the name of the fifth House and its colour. The final House names have been narrowed down to:

The Cross – representing the original cross that stood at the point where Northgate, Southgate, Eastgate and Westgate Streets meet in Gloucester city centre.

Newgate – representing the formation of a 'new' house.

If you would like to contribute your thoughts to this, please use the following link to complete a short survey:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/RduGsSYPft>

I would like to pass on my thanks to Mr Hinds for co-ordinating the consultation process.

Half Term Activities

As we approach the half-term holiday, I am happy to share the attached newsletter from *My Town Rocks*, which is a 'what's on guide' that publicises community events for families, days out, holiday clubs, classes, parks, walks and places to eat in Gloucester.

[Gloucester Rocks Newsletter - click here to open](#)

In support of the termly year group emails from Heads of Year and Heads of Key Stage, I will also aim to keep parents updated on whole school pastoral issues, such as those mentioned here, and to supplement the regular parent emails from the Headmaster.

Finally, on behalf of all subject teachers, we wish all students in Year 11 and 13 the very best for their remaining examinations.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable half-term break.

Best wishes

Matthew

Mr M. Lynch

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

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