



End of Term Key Stage 3 Update

Dear Parents

We hope this email finds you well and that you are looking forward to a relaxing Easter break after what has been a very busy term at Sir Thomas Rich's School.

Payment methods in the canteen

We would like to inform you of a change to payment methods in the main school canteen, which comes into effect upon our return to school on 13 April.

Mobile phone payments (including Apple Pay and Google Pay) will no longer be accepted in the main school canteen. Pupils will instead need to pay using their biometric account, or a payment card.

Please note that mobile phone payments will still be accepted for Sixth Form students in the Sixth Form Study Centre.

This change supports our wider approach to minimising mobile phone use during the School day and helps ensure the canteen service runs smoothly and efficiently.

If you have any questions or need support with the biometric system, please contact the finance office.

Mobile phones

Following on from Mr Dempsey's email, we would like to remind pupils that headphones or Air pods will not be permitted in school after the Easter break. This will include during private study, whereby pupils must bring work in to complete, whether it be textbooks or other paper-based materials.

Furthermore, a polite reminder that should you need to get in touch with your child during the School day, to contact main reception.

Inclusion and Mental Health newsletters

On behalf of Miss Tapscott (Deputy Headteacher), I would like to share our second Inclusion newsletter, which celebrates the many activities and events that have taken place over the last term to support SEND, Young Carers and Pupil Premium pupils. Please click [here](#) to access issue number two.

Furthermore, we would like to share the latest issue of the STRS Mental Health and Wellbeing newsletter. This term's edition includes helpful information for parents regarding the importance of connectedness, and some support.

Extra-curricular update

Mr Williams (Director of Sport) has reported.

Rugby

The under 16s have had a great season this year, with their best performance coming in the 16-11 victory against Monmouth in the National Cup. They went on to reach the last 16 in the country where they lost narrowly to Lord Wandsworth School from Hampshire, but they have made good progress towards Senior rugby next year. The under 16Bs also had a great season defeating Marlborough College, Cheltenham College and Kingswood to name a few. The under 15s have struggled a little this year but the A team recorded wins against Kingswood, Bloxham and Pate's and the B team defeated Dean Close, Bloxham and Kingswood. The under 14s had an excellent season reaching the EDF Cup Semi-Final and recorded wins against Monmouth, Kingswood and Old Swinford Hospital. The under 14Bs and Cs performed well also, with the B teams' notable victory against King's Worcester and the Cs defeating Bromsgrove. The under 13s are a very talented year group, who if they work hard have a great deal of potential, this could be seen with wins this season against Cheltenham College and Clifton College and draws against Northampton School for boys and Ulster's premier rugby school, Methodist College, Belfast. The Bs and Cs have also produced some excellent rugby with wins against Cheltenham College and Bromsgrove. The under 12s have made a very positive start to their rugby careers at Rich's. The A team have defeated Beechen Cliff, Dean Close, Old Swinford to name a few. The Bs, Cs and Ds have all performed so well all season, with the Bs defeating Bromsgrove and Cheltenham College this season.

Basketball

The under 16 basketball team struggled a little in the EBBA Cup but recorded good wins against Marlborough and St Peter's. The under 15s also defeated Marlborough and Chosen Hill this season. The u14s qualified for the knockout

stages of the EBBA Cup defeating St Peter's and the Orchard School Bristol. Unfortunately, they lost to Hartland High, Reading in the last 32. The under 13s and under 12s have made good progress so far in the Junior NBA competitions.

Football

The under 16s defeated Crypt and Pate's this season but did progress to the Gloucester City semifinals. The under 15s defeated Churchdown and Hereford Cathedral School but unfortunately also didn't progress. The under 14s did reach the semifinal after defeating Barnwood Park and recording some draws but then lost to St Peter's.

Swimming & Cross Country

The Swimming teams competed well on the ESSA relays and overall teams won the Gloucester District championships. The cross-country teams competed well in the ESAA competitions and won the Gloucester District Championships.

Squash

The Key Stage 3 team reached the National Cup Finals where they finished 7th in the country with Dan Stevenson winning of all of his games. The KS4 team also reached the National finals of the Plate competition.

House Competition

Across the Spring term there have been a variety of House Events, giving everyone the opportunity to get involved. House Music took place this week and was won by Westgate, who also won House Debate. House netball and Rugby were won by Southgate. In House public speaking Westgate won the Junior competition, and Southgate won the Senior Competition.

House competitions will continue into the summer term culminating on our Sports (Athletics) Evening, which takes place on Thursday 2 July.

Mental Health Foundation – 'Wear it Green' Day

Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 11–17 May this year. As part of this national initiative, the school will be supporting the Mental Health Foundation's 'Wear it Green' Day on Thursday 14 May to help raise awareness of mental health.

Pupils are expected to attend school in their normal uniform. Those who wish to take part are invited to wear a green accessory, for example green socks, a hair accessory, or a badge.

The Mental Health Foundation suggests a voluntary donation of £1, and we would be very grateful for any contributions. All funds raised will go directly to the Mental Health Foundation to support their research and outreach programmes.

Donations can be made via SCOPAY.

Please be aware that Order 2 Reports for pupils in Years 7-9 have now been published. Please access the reports through Parent Gateway.

It just leaves us to wish you and your family a lovely Easter holiday, and we look forward to a warm and sunny summer term ahead.

Best wishes

Mrs Chloe Rigby-Smith (Head of Year 8)

Mr Peter Daniell (Assistant Headteacher – Head of Key Stages 3 and 4)

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