

Newsletter 13

12th December 2017

Head's Message

Following a very cold weekend and the first snow closure for a few years, work is taking place today to clear the site as far as possible and with a warmer night forecast I hope that we can get back to normal tomorrow. There are House Music rehearsals scheduled for Friday. Thank you in advance for your forbearance following this rescheduling. I look forward to seeing many of you at the House Music Competition at the Dunstable Conference Centre on Monday. The event will start at 1.00pm. Details are being sent out separately by the school events team.

Short reports for the term for all pupils are due to be sent out to parents at the end of this term. Whilst all the data has been collected and tutor reports are currently being written we are experiencing some technical issues with the report templates which are generated by the school information system SIMS. Hopefully this will be remedied soon but if not there may be a delay in getting the reports out. You will be informed if this is the case.

A first draft of the Calendar for next term is included as an attachment with this mailing.

DUNSTABLE CAMPUS NATIONAL WINNERS!

DUNSTABLE CAMPUS HAS BEEN NAMED NATIONAL WINNERS OF THE RECENT STEAM DAY COMPETITION. AS A RESULT WE WILL BE RECEIVING SOME VERY WELCOME CAMERA EQUIPMENT. WELL DONE TO ALL THE PUPILS AND STAFF INVOLVED – ESPECIALLY OUR DIGITAL MEDIA STUDENTS WHO PUT OUR ENTRY TOGETHER.

100% Attendance Competition

As of this week, 55 pupils still have 100% attendance so far this term.

With just one week to go....

Overall attendance for the school year has dropped slightly to 96.8%...our minimum target is 97%

Sports House Tournament Day – Wednesday 6th December

Despite the travel and the cold biting wind at the outside venue the pupils impressed with their enthusiastic participation, leadership and support for each other.

Thank you to Mr Heady and Mrs Crookell-Slade for organising such an enjoyable and appropriately competitive day and thank you to all who drove buses and supported! The results will be announced at the Rewards Assembly later this week.

EVENTS TO KEEP IN VIEW DECEMBER/ JANUARY

12th December – Staff Meal – campuses closed pm

13th December – Dunstable KS2 Autumn Celebration

18th December – Joint House Music Competition

18th December - Term Ends - 3.00pm

4th January – Spring Term Starts - 8.45am

9th January – Year 11 Pupils and Parents – post-16 Options Meeting

15th to 19th January – Mock Exams – Year 11 and 13

GCSE Exam Results Set in a National Context

Last week a parent asked how the GCSE exam results the pupils at Dunstable achieved compared with schools nationally. So here they are!

Measure	2017	Nationally	2016	Nationally
% A* and A grades	40.9	22.1	35.4	21.5
% A* to C grades	93.5	67.4	87	69.1
% pupils gaining 5 or more passes A* to C	95	66.1%	89	66.5
Average value added points per grade	0.58	n/a	0.38	n/a

Whilst our year groups are relatively small and the baseline academic profile varies from year to year, our GCSE results are significantly about the national averages. The “Average value added points per grade” figure translates to over half a grade per subject per pupil above their baseline target.

I am sure you will agree these are very pleasing outcomes for our pupils.