



23rd May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Half-Term Updates

As we come to the end of a busy and productive half term, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your continued support. Your encouragement, communication, and partnership play a vital role in helping us create the best possible environment for our students to learn and thrive. It has been a pleasure to see the hard work and achievements of our young people over the past few weeks, and we are proud of all they have accomplished. At the end of this letter I have included a section on standards that I would appreciate all families to read so that we can ensure all students are upholding the high standards of the Collegiate.

Sports Awards

Our recent Sports Awards Evening was a fantastic celebration of the dedication, talent, and achievements of our student-athletes. From league titles to county call-ups and personal bests, the evening highlighted both sporting excellence and academic success across a wide range of disciplines. We were honoured to welcome back former student and current Crystal Palace footballer David Ozoh as our guest presenter. His return was both inspiring and memorable, reminding us all of what can be achieved through resilience, ambition, and hard work.

A heartfelt thank you to the parents and carers whose support—on the sidelines, through countless drop-offs, and in every moment in between—makes such success possible. We are also incredibly grateful to our dedicated PE staff for their tireless efforts in providing so many enriching opportunities for our students. It was a particular honour to present the Jaiden Cup, in memory of Jaiden Shehata, whose passion for sport continues to inspire all who knew him.

Duke of Edinburgh

Our recent Duke of Edinburgh expedition was a great success, with students showing incredible determination and resilience throughout the weekend. They pushed themselves beyond what they thought possible and gained valuable skills in independence, teamwork, and perseverance—qualities that are so important both in school and in life.

We are now looking ahead to the Silver expedition from 6th–8th June and the Bronze assessed expedition on 27th–28th June. Further information will be shared after half term. Thank you to all our families for your continued support—it really does make all the difference.

Collegiate and College Head Ambassadors

We are delighted to inform you that, following a rigorous selection process involving written applications, presentations, and interviews, the appointments for our new Collegiate and College Head Ambassadors have now been made. The standard of applicants was exceptionally high, reflecting the outstanding leadership potential of our students. We are incredibly proud of all those who took part and are pleased to announce the students who have been appointed to these prestigious roles are:

College VI	Rithiekaa Umasuthan	William Gray
Aquila	Nevan Malik	Avneet Bhogal
Orion	Amyrah Higgins	Ethan Ojoye
Pegasus	Haider Safi	Kendra Michael
Phoenix	Charlottei Chanthi Nitkunan Christiansen	Lowen Munasinghe

The CPA ambassador process is ongoing and we will announce the CPA Ambassadors after half-term.

End of Term

As we come to the end of another busy half term, I want to take a moment to acknowledge and congratulate all students who have been sitting public examinations. Undertaking these exams is a significant challenge, and I've been struck by the maturity, resilience, and dedication shown by our Year 10, 11 and Year 13 students. I also want to extend my thanks to our staff, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that every aspect of the exam process has been carefully planned, well organised, and smoothly delivered. Creating the right conditions for success is a shared priority, and I'm sure you will join me in recognising the outstanding commitment and support of colleagues across the school. Although students sitting exams are no longer in regular lessons, our teachers, tutors, and college leaders remain available to provide support. Please do encourage students to reach out if they need any guidance or assistance.

Wishing all families a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 2nd June at the usual time of 8.30am.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Osborne
Principal



Standards

As you are aware, we continue to set high levels of expectations for all members of our community, and these are reflected clearly and precisely in the standards we expect from students in acting as ambassadors inside and outside of The Collegiate. We are certain that this commitment to our VALUES promotes good habits and routines, taking pride in all we do and developing the behaviours that lead to success. This half term break will provide you with the chance to re-set and ensure that your child is fully equipped and ready for the final half term of the academic year. Therefore, it is a timely opportunity to share some reminders about some of our key non-negotiables related to standards and expectations.

Skirts

It is important that students choosing to wear a skirt to school are not only wearing the correct skirt (*the approved Riddlesdown skirt DL972* is available only from Hewitts*), but that it is being worn appropriately at knee length. Students who continue to choose to roll their skirt and wear it inappropriately, will be required to wear trousers to school.

Nails & Jewellery

Our uniform policy is very clear in outlining that nail varnish and nail extensions are not allowed. In addition, we stipulate that students may wear one small plain stud in each ear and no other jewellery is allowed – this includes bracelets, necklaces and other piercings. If students choose to wear painted or extended nails to school and these cannot be removed, they may find themselves working in isolation from their peers. Furthermore, additional jewellery that is worn outside of what is permitted must be removed.

Hoodies

Hoodies are not permitted to be worn in school. It is important that students are adhering to this at all times. Students who choose to wear a hoodie in school will have it confiscated as it is not part of the school uniform.

Blazers

The school blazer is a compulsory item of uniform and must be worn at all times. The school jumper is optional, as are coats and jackets – these must not be worn instead of the blazer. Students who continue to carry or not wear their blazer will be placed in *Social Supervision*.

School Shoes

These must be black leather formal shoes. Shoes must be low-heeled and students should not therefore wear boots. Nike and Adidas do not make school shoes and these will not be permitted. Any student not wearing correct footwear will be placed in school shoes by their college team.

Riddlesdown Ready

Being well equipped and ready for learning is a significant factor in students being successful. Please ensure that students are returning to school with fully stocked pencil cases, to include a supply of black, green and red pens, pencils, ruler, compass, protractor, scientific calculator, highlighters and glue.

Punctuality

Our school day starts at 08:30 and as you are aware, any student who is not sat down in their tutor room and ready for the day at this time, receives a *Whole School Detention*. We place a high value on punctuality, to school in the morning and to lessons throughout the day, as it demonstrates a commitment to learning and a respect for the community. Please ensure that appropriate routines are in place to support good punctuality in the morning and the messaging of the importance of being on time to lessons is being reinforced at home.

Mobile Phones

Our approach to mobile phones is On Site, Out of Sight. This simply means that whilst on the school site, students phones must not be seen or heard. Students should turn phones off and put them away in bags so that there is no distraction during the day. A student who chooses to have their phone on display in a trouser or blazer pocket will have it confiscated, as per our policy, for 5 school days.