



# PARENT BULLETIN: PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

8th January 2020

## UPCOMING KEY DATES

### January 2020

22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 7 Learning Coach evening (Targeted families)
29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 trip to London Eye & London Aquarium Year 8 Relationships day

### February 2020

17 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup>	Spring half term holiday
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### March 2020

4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 8 Learning Coach Evening
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### April 2020

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day of spring term
6 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup>	Spring term holidays

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Happy New Year!

I hope you enjoyed reading the newsletter at the end of last term, and this term promises to be as action-packed as the last.

I am very pleased to be able to report that Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, on average, made fantastic academic progress. Within that data there are of course variations and you will be receiving your child's report this week. Please note the Year 7 Learning Coach evening (Wednesday 22 January) will be a targeted evening, only for pupils who are not making the progress we would like. The Year 8 Learning Coach evening (Wednesday 4 March) will be for all families, as we are starting to prepare the children for selecting their Key Stage 4 subjects.

We are also very proud of the progress children have made with reading. The majority of pupils who have worked with Mrs Brandon and Mr Rudd over the last term have made accelerated progress. We will continue to work with all children on reading, and they will all be visiting Colindale Library this term.

Later on this term, on Wednesday 29th January, Year 7 will go on another cultural capital trip to the London Aquarium and London Eye. On the same day, back at school, Year 8 will have a 'relationship day', full of interesting and informative activities.

Our Futures programme will continue for Year 8 pupils as they work towards selecting their Key Stage 4 options in the summer term, they will meet and visit people from a number of careers. Among the activities, around 30 children who have expressed an interest in architecture or engineering will be visiting a company in London, and we will be hearing from a marine biologist who is visiting the school.

We have started our recruitment process for teaching staff to join us in September 2020, and have already made some very good appointments. There are further interviews throughout this half-term and many children will be involved in that process. We are also pleased to welcome our new Safer Schools Officer PC Dhunjar who will be based in our local community and supporting our pupils and families.

Please continue to look out for emails with information about further opportunities and I hope to see lots of you at the Saracens Women's game on Saturday.

### Mobile Phones

Unfortunately, we have had children approached outside of school this academic year, but they haven't had a phone or money on them and nothing was taken. Our primary goal is to keep all members of our community safe, and this is why we say children should not bring phones or valuables to school. Phones also cause problems in school and frequently raise issues of cyber-bullying, e-safety, and ultimately can distract from our core purpose of learning.

If a child has to bring a phone to school then it must be a basic phone (not smart phone) that allows calls and text messages only, with no internet, camera, or apps. We have identified some suitable phones, for your reference:

<https://tinyurl.com/yemcrmbv>

<https://tinyurl.com/ygavhesp>

<https://tinyurl.com/ygw7w2pr>

Any phones brought in to school must be switched off and locked away safely in a locker during the school day. Anyone with a phone on them between 8.20 am and 3.30 pm will have it confiscated and it will only be returned to parents.