



I hope you all enjoyed a good fortnight's break and have had a good first week back. As is customary, various notices for you to consider in the days ahead.

## **University Matters**

### **U6 - UCAS Deadline**

By the time you have read this, the internal deadline for UCAS applications has passed. For clarity, the reason why the school deadline differs from the external deadline is because once you submit your form, we have to ensure it is as strong an application as it can possibly be before it is actually sent off to your chosen institutions. Additionally, many (but not all) universities respond quite quickly once they receive your UCAS form and I know already of Upper Sixth formers who have received conditional offers for 2022. This can be a welcome boost and a reminder of what you are studying for! If you are struggling with your choices and need some support, please make contact so this can be arranged for you.

### **U6 - OS University Reps**

Linked to the points raised above, a gentle reminder that we have close to two hundred former pupils across universities in the United Kingdom (and beyond) who are more than willing to have a chat to you about their course and about their university. As you start to receive offers, you may appreciate the opportunity to talk through your choices with someone who is currently on a course / at an establishment of interest. Please make contact so we can facilitate this.

### **L6 & U6 - University Open Days**

As restrictions have eased this academic year, it is pleasing to see the gradual return of on-site open events. If you are keen to attend a university of interest, the school's policy and processes for this are explained on the [link](#).

### **L6 & U6 - MOOCs**

This is aimed more at the Lower 6<sup>th</sup>, but may also be relevant to the year above. On Unifrog you will notice a whole section dedicated to these short courses which can provide a terrific insight into university courses, and in turn look impressive on future applications. Normally completely free and can be completed at your own pace, alongside your existing commitments. Have a look and get signed up!

## **General Notices – School Events**

- I'm really looking forward to hosting a talk on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November on the topic of psychology. We've had lots of enquiries about this profession this academic year. You can read all about our guests and register via this [link](#). All year groups welcome.
- Particularly aimed at those studying GCSE & A Level History, A Level Politics and / or are members of the MUN, we are focusing on studying and working in History, Politics and International Relations next week. I'll send a separate email which will detail our guests, but needless to say this will be one you really need to be attending!
- I'm putting the finishing touches to the Futures Lent Term programme next week and will confirm details of this in the next bulletin. An early notice to those in fourth and fifth form, there will be talks taking place almost every Tuesday evening next term, and you will be required to attend at least two. There's a wide range of professionals already secured, including a cyber security specialist, GP and an architect, to name but three. Further details to follow.
- On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November Mr Hughes has arranged for ex SAS and motivational speaker [Floyd Woodrow](#) to visit the school. He is an incredible speaker and will be sharing his experiences and advice on the topic of leadership. All year groups welcome, dress code is suits, 7.25pm start, Barnes Theatre.
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November there is a Darwin Lecture open to all year groups given by *Dr Helen Onyeaka of the University of Birmingham* Chemical Engineering faculty. She will be talking about her journey through various scientific fields, discussing what each entails and motivating factors throughout her career so far. Barnes Theatre, 7.25pm start, suits as well please! Thank you to Mr Wray for organising this.

Keep well and best wishes,

Mr Wain