

## **PARENT PARTNERSHIP – WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017**

Mr Jones gave a presentation about the school's journey to 'Outstanding' (attached).

Mr Jones then invited questions from the floor.

Q. What is Mr Jones' commitment to Sir William Ramsay?

A. This is for 2 days per week for this academic year. Sir William Ramsay are recruiting a new Headteacher this term.

Q. What if Sir William Ramsay do not manage to recruit?

A. Mr Jones' involvement at Sir William Ramsay will not compromise his commitment to HGSS. There is no intention for SWR to become dependent on HGSS.

Q. School Production – the last production was 3 years ago – what are the plans for future productions?

A. This is a staffing issue – currently there is difficulty in finding the capacity to deliver a school production.

Q. Show My Homework – the deadline for the homework pieces is not clear – the tasks are being uploaded either prior to the lesson or sometimes several days later.

A. Show My Homework does not allow the teacher to back-date when the homework is set and additionally you can set homework well in advance although it shouldn't appear until the day it is set. Mr Wooller will look at this and raise the issue with staff.

Q. Revision Guides – what guidance are students given about how to revise?

A. There is a PHSCE programme and Citizenship programme which covers this. The school circulated a Year 11 Revision Guide last year. This will be uploaded to Show My Homework for all year groups.

Q. This also needs to be reinforced by teachers. The school offers Revision Guides but the students need some help in how to use them.

A. Mr Jones replied that the Senior Leadership Team would discuss how to communicate revision skills for all students. A new strategy is currently in planning to address this.

Q. Parents would like a list of all the exam boards for each subject.

A. The school will arrange this

Q. Parents are very grateful for all the revision sessions which are offered by teachers.

Q. Mr Li – a parent asked if Mr Li was staying.

A. Yes Mr Li is a permanent member of staff.

Q. Parent Survey – this has just gone out – one parent hoped that there would be a better response this year.

A. Results will be fed back to parents as soon as they are available.

Q. Work Experience – this has moved to Year 12 – one parent was worried that students were missing the opportunity in Year 10 or Year 11.

A. This was a decision taken at HGSS and also across the whole country. It was felt it was difficult to release the students for a week during Year 10/11 and the programme had become very expensive.

Q. Careers – what careers guidance do students receive?

A. All Year 11 students get a timetabled session but there are also bi-weekly drop-in sessions on a Monday and Tuesday in the LRC which is available for and used by all year groups.

Q. Supply Teachers – are students who are being taught by a Supply Teacher still being pushed?

A. Yes absolutely – most of our Supply Teachers are subject specialists.

Q. Marking – some subjects are not marking their homework which is very disheartening for students.

A. We are rigorous at checking that marking is taking place – parents should contact the school to notify us of any situations where this is not happening.

Q. Netball – the Netball Club for Year 7 is being regularly cancelled.

A. This was moved from a Wednesday to a Thursday and runs each week.

Q. Could we have a fixture list – parents are not being told about fixtures.

A. Fixtures are often subject to change – it is the students' responsibility to inform their parents.

Q. Taxi students are not being given the opportunity to play for Sports Teams.

A. Taxi students have the same opportunity to take part as all other students - the school will ensure this is properly communicated to parents to give them the option to collect so all students can take part in after school fixtures.

Q. Is there an area of the website for School Trip letters?

A. Yes but they are updated and therefore won't stay on the website forever.

Q. One parent was missing a letter.

A. This letter has now been forwarded to the parent.

Praise: One parent wanted to publicly praise Mr Woods, our new Second in Charge in the Science Department – 'he is really making the students excited about Science'.