

Thursday 18th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Over the last two and a half days the school has been unable to access the internet. This was initially because of a much wider problem on Monday in the London Grid for Learning, which then adversely affected our internal systems. I am grateful to our own technical team and the external company which supports us for successfully resolving the issues just before lunch-time today. Everyone in the school community has handled this challenge with considerable grace. We have also noted some things which we can do differently in the future. I apologise for the difficulty in contacting the school which this caused. Part of the purpose of this letter is to reassure you that normal systems of communication are now working again. We will endeavour to catch up as quickly as we can with tasks which we would normally during this time.

It has been a good start of the term otherwise. We were particularly pleased with the pre-exam sessions provided by an external company last Thursday for Year 11 and 13 and with their very focused and positive participation in those sessions.

At the start of this term we welcome two new members of staff: Mr Williams, who is to be our new Head of Music – Mr Martin will be with us until Founder's Day on Friday, May 3rd; and Mrs Scott who is our new afternoon receptionist. At the end of last term we said good-bye to Mrs Lee, who retired after over 20 years of working in the school in different capacities. We are so grateful to her for her dedicated and committed service to the school over so long. We wish her a very happy retirement.

The Spring Term came to a good end on Maundy Thursday. It was a full and productive term, and we benefited greatly from the addition of Mr Koramoa as Deputy Headteacher (Policy and Practice) to our Senior Leadership Team. As we look ahead to this term, we anticipate that it will be an important one for each year group in the school. We look forward to seeing Year 7 parents at next week's second parents evening, and to writing to you again, as other events approach.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Paris Z

Richard Parrish Headteacher