

## Headteacher's Welcome

Hello to everyone and welcome back to another week at Meopham School! As we approach the end of January already(!) and we started to see the afternoons get a little lighter, we are excited to let you know all about some of the excellent opportunities that are going on at school at the moment, including our new Enrichment programme for this term and our House assemblies this Thursday! With so much going on around school, we encourage all of our students to get involved in as much as possible!

## Cultural Capital *a message from Miss Hodd (Assistant Headteacher)*

### UPDATED Enrichment Programme Term 3 & 4

There have been some final additions to our **Enrichment Programme for Term 3 & 4.**

**Debating Society** with **Mr Roberts** continues to run every **Monday** in the English department. This week's debate is: *"This House believes aliens exist."* Anyone who enjoys a bit of spirited discussion is welcome along!

Mrs Eaton will be delivering **Year 10 Science Higher Revision** sessions during **Tuesday lunchtimes** and Mr Smith will be leading **Boxing Club** every **Wednesday lunchtime** in the Sports Hall.

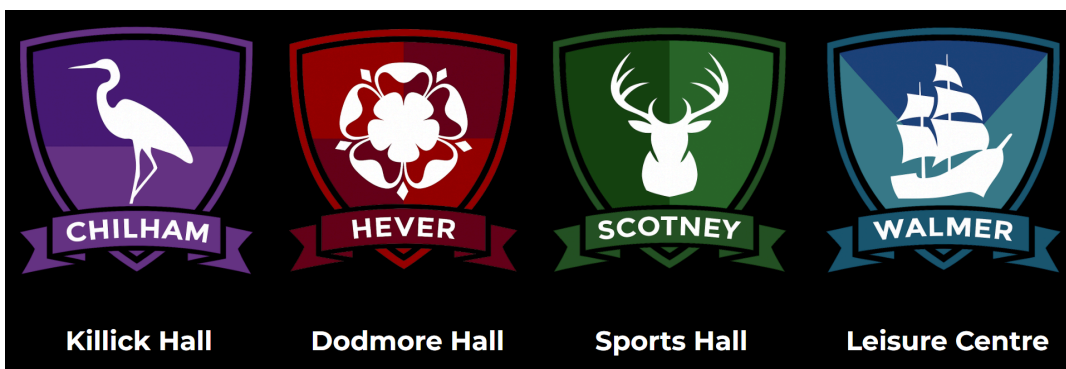
A reminder that all **Year 11 students** are invited to attend **weekly revision sessions** every lunchtime in preparation for upcoming exams.

### Term 3 House Assemblies

Our termly **House assemblies** will be taking place this week on **Thursday 29th January**. Students and staff will gather in their Houses to **acknowledge and celebrate the achievements** of students in the last term, big and small. **Sixth Form House Captains** will also be revealing who they have chosen to be **Deputy House Captains!**

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME TERM 3 & 4			
<b>Monday</b>			
Pride Club	Lunchtime	Hums 7	Miss Williams
Debating Society	Lunchtime	English 8	Mr Roberts
Football Club (Year 7)	Lunchtime	Leisure Centre*	Mr Wood
Mindfulness Art	Lunchtime	Art 2	Miss Hodd
Year 11 Revision	Lunchtime	English 9	Mrs Williamson
Homework Club	Lunchtime	Oasis	Oasis Staff
Basketball Club	Afterschool	Leisure Centre*	Mr Goldsmith & Mr Smith
<b>Tuesday</b>			
English Club	Lunchtime	English 6	Mrs Porter-Clarke & Ms Rajkumar
MFL Club	Lunchtime	Languages 2	Mrs Lajnef
Macramé Club	Lunchtime	Art 2	Miss Jarvis & Miss Kesby
Football Club (Year 8)	Lunchtime	Leisure Centre*	Mr Payne
Year 11 Revision	Lunchtime	English 9	Mrs Williamson
Homework Club	Lunchtime	Oasis	Oasis Staff
Year 10 Science Higher Revision	Lunchtime	Science 4	Mrs Eaton
Fitness	Afterschool	Sports Hall*	Mrs Huggens & Miss Broad
Cooking & Culture Club	Afterschool	Catering Room	Miss Kerr
Games Club Board Games, Table Tops Games & Trading Card Games	Afterschool	Hums 4	Mr Obbard
History Club	Afterschool	Hums 7	Miss Williams
<b>Wednesday</b>			
Doodle Club	Lunchtime	Art 3	Mrs Nicolaou
Boxing Club	Lunchtime	Sports Hall*	Mr Smith
Year 11 Revision	Lunchtime	English 9	Mrs Williamson
Homework Club	Lunchtime	Oasis	Oasis Staff
<b>Thursday</b>			
School Magazine Club	Lunchtime	English 4	Mrs Williamson
Football Club (Year 9)	Lunchtime	Leisure Centre*	Mr Goldsmith
School Choir	Lunchtime	Music 1	Mr Knight & Mrs Hill
Year 11 Revision	Lunchtime	English 9	Mrs Bland
Homework Club	Lunchtime	Oasis	Oasis Staff
Badminton	Afterschool	Sports Hall*	Mr Whittle
Dance Club	Afterschool	PA Room (Dodmore)	Mrs Greenwood
<b>Friday</b>			
Equation Invasion	Lunchtime	Maths 8	Mr Hicks
Football Club (Year 10&11)	Lunchtime	Leisure Centre*	Mrs Davis Lane & Mr Whittle
Year 11 Revision	Lunchtime	English 9	Mrs Williamson
Homework Club	Lunchtime	Oasis	Oasis Staff

\*meet at the main changing rooms for PE clubs



### Key Messages

#### **Parent and Carer's Information Evenings (Mrs Romney, Deputy Headteacher)**

A reminder that we have two more Parent and Carer's Information Evenings this term. Our **Sixth Form Evening** takes place on **Wednesday 28th January**, and the **Year 10 Evening** takes place on **Wednesday 4th February**.

#### **Road Roundabout Safety (Mr Wood, Assistant Headteacher- KS3 Conduct and Welfare)**

I have seen a huge increase in the amount of people using the **drop off point behind the doctors' surgery**. This has led to a much safer and ultimately calmer, safer and more relaxed start to the morning for students, parents, staff etc. Thank you all for your support with this.

#### **SSP Extension (Mr Wood, Assistant Headteacher- KS3 Conduct and Welfare)**

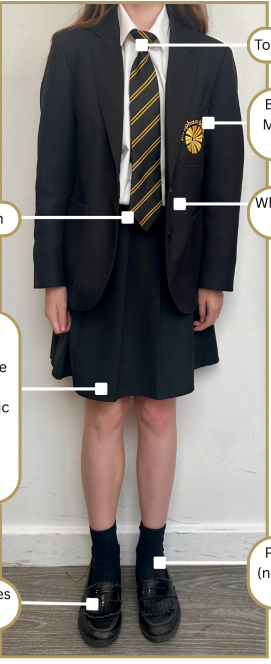
I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of this change to the duration of the SSP day - your support with this has been extremely helpful and speaking to many parents/carers to explain the reason for this extension has been positive. Now the SSP day finishes at 4.15pm and gives our students further time in our care to do the pastoral work we need to with our students to help them learn from conduct mistakes.

#### **Uniform Expectations (Mr Wood, Assistant Headteacher- KS3 Conduct and Welfare)**

Please can you support our students to wear the uniform in our school to meet all the uniform standards as shown below. Uniform sweeps have shown a huge improvement in the standards so we thank you all for your unity with us. The main focus this week is **jewellery and jackets being off indoors**.

**Meopham School**

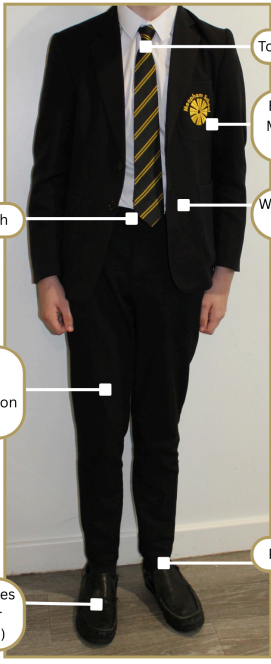
## Uniform Expectations



- Not permitted**
  - False eyelashes
  - False nails
  - Nail polish
  - Earrings
  - Facial piercings
  - Rings
  - Bracelets
  - Necklaces
- Top button done up
- Black blazer with Meopham School badge
- White collared shirt tucked in
- Tie - waist length
- Black A-line, pleated skirt approaching knee length (Not stretch fabric or pencil style) or trousers (no jeans or fashion trousers)
- Plain black socks (no higher than the ankle) or tights
- Black school shoes (not trainers)

**Meopham School**

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### **Headteacher Commendations - Miss Hodd (Assistant Headteacher)**

Students who have demonstrated exceptional examples of our **TRUE values** and have nominated for **Headteacher Commendations** this week are:

**Archie W & Aston H (Year 10)** - Excellent participation in English lessons.

**Ava H & Maiya N (Year 9)** - Demonstrating tenacity in English.

**Alfie C (Year 7)** - Raising money for the switch on of his Grandad's Christmas lights.

**Louise L (Year 11)** - Excellent answer to a 9 mark GCSE question about the impact of TNCs in Nigeria, with a case study based on Shell oil.

**Evander K (Year 10)** - Commended for always producing excellent work and showing positive engagement in Business Studies.

**Violet N (Year 8)** - Settling in well to her new English set.

**Ollie L (Year 11)** - Reflecting and correcting work, demonstrating tenacity in Business Studies, Ollie has improved since the start of this year.

**Amelia Mc (Year 11)** - For being a role model and demonstrating respect, always saying thank you at the end of each Business lesson.

**Frank K (Year 10)** - Always respectful, polite and friendly and eager to try harder and demonstrate tenacity in English and other classes.

All students on this list will be invited to Headteacher Commendation on **Thursday at 12:30pm in Mr Roberts' office** for Dominos pizza and their certificates.

**Teaching and Learning Tips - a message from Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Romney**

We want to ensure that every moment within a lesson is maximised as a learning opportunity, and have therefore been focusing on our plenaries in recent months. Plenaries are planned activities at the end of a lesson, used to review objectives, consolidate learning and assess understanding. They allow teachers to identify gaps in understanding, address misconceptions, and prepare students for what is coming next. Mini plenaries are also used at key points in the lesson, to check comprehension before moving on.

Activities might include:

**Summarizing/Reflection:** "Give Me Five" (recall of 5 key details), "Two Stars and a Wish" (two things learned, one to improve).

**Active/Interactive:** "Bingo" for key terms, "Hot Seating" (role-playing), "60-Second Challenge" to summarize knowledge.

**Questioning:** Asking students what they learned, what they found hard, or to identify the main points of the lesson.

**A message from Mrs Hartley, Senior Assistant Headteacher - Raising Standards and Sixth Form**

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Skills for Success Evening** last Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many families in the hall, working together to support our young people. The feedback has been positive, and it is clear that our community is united in helping our students achieve their very best. For those students and families who were unable to attend, please do not worry. We have ensured that no one misses out on the vital tools shared during the event:

**Revision Envelopes:** All students who were absent from the evening have now been issued their personal revision envelope. These contain proven revision strategies, subject-specific tips, and essential exam information to help them structure their time effectively over the coming weeks.

We are encouraging all students to view revision as a positive way to build confidence. It isn't about "cramming"—it's about small, consistent steps. Whether it's a 20-minute "brain dump," a set of flashcards, or a practice question, every minute spent now is an investment in their future.

**Please encourage your child to talk to their teachers if they feel overwhelmed. We are here to support them every step of the way.** Thank you for your continued partnership.

**Sixth Form**

Remember that we have our **Sixth Form Parent/Carer Evening** on **Wednesday 28th January 4.15pm - 6.45pm**. Please ensure you have booked your appointments via Parentcloud. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

 #Revision Tip 1

### 8 Ways to Work Smarter

For Revision To Be Effective You Must ...

-  **1 Target a specific part of your knowledge**
-  **2 Take yourself out of your comfort zone**
-  **3 Reinforce and build on previous work**
-  **4 Get feedback on what you are doing**
-  **5 Strengthen your weaknesses**
-  **6 Build on your strengths**
-  **7 Put in the hard work and intensity**
-  **8 Give it your full focus and concentration**

### Moving Forward

Over the past few weeks, it has been lovely to catch up with families both at the Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening and the Year 11 Skills for Success event and hear all about your children's progress. A lot of people don't realise this, but we are actually at roughly the midpoint in the academic year (even further for Year 11!) and, at this crucial juncture, it is a great time to take stock, reflect on everything our young people have achieved so far this year, and what we need to do next to build them from strength to strength.

The teamwork required between school and home is so vital for a young person's success - please never underestimate the incredible impact you can have on your child's education from home. Asking them what they have been learning at school this week; helping them organise their home learning or revision; or even just a few words of encouragement and support: these all go such a long way to building up a young person's self-esteem, and letting them know we are all in their corner, willing them to do their very best. A huge thank you to all parents and carers for all you do to support your child's education outside of school, and we look forward to seeing lots more of you soon!

Have a lovely week,

Mr Roberts  
Headteacher