



13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been tremendous to see so many parents and carers on site for the **Tutor Evening last night** which I hope you found useful. The local governing body of the school also met this week where they reviewed our examination performance from the summer along with discussions around safeguarding, our uniform arrangements and our behaviour policy.

I am looking to include in my letters some details from our various departments; below is our first contribution:

*'In the **English Department**, there are a number of activities underway. Year 7 classes have been set the task of reading the height of the average student, with the spines of all books completed being photocopied and stuck to their group's pillar in our hugely popular Library. Meanwhile, all years have been introduced to the Poetry By Heart competition, with all students challenged to memorise a poem of their choice. Every Wednesday lunchtime in E3, there are top tips and coaching for performance available ahead of a whole school competition in January. If they can recite their text to their English teacher, five house points await. Finally, the Key Stage 4 Debating Club is now meeting on Thursdays in E6 at 1.30pm, with those attending deciding upon their own topics and learning how to shape their arguments for maximum impact.'*

Careers Convention – Tuesday 17th October from 6pm to 8pm

A reminder that all parents and carers, along with students, are invited to our Careers Convention based around the School Hall next Tuesday from 6pm to 8pm, details are attached.

Staying Safe Online Workshop in the Hall – Thursday 2nd November

I know some parents and carers have already signed up for this event but if you would still like to attend, please let us know by completing [this form](#).

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 9th November

All Year 11 students, parents and carers are invited to our Sixth Form Open Evening to look at the courses we are going to offer for the next academic year, details are attached. Dr Holland is taking Year 11's assembly on Monday 16th October to talk to students about our process for entry.

Transport Survey around the use of WESTlink in the Chew Valley

I know some students are already using the green minibuses provided by WESTlink <https://travelwest.info/westlink/> with the associated app that can be downloaded. The organisation behind this is going through some consultation of how the service moves forward and have asked us to share a [survey](#) with you so that you can give your views and suggestions. The closing date for the survey is noon on Tuesday 17th October.

Friday 20th October is the last day before we break for the holiday. Can I wish you and your families a happy half term whatever you are up to.

With very best wishes

Gareth Beynon
Headteacher