



Ruskin Community High School
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 Ruskin Community High School

Our Ref: HTSA/parental/BRE/JOD
Date: 29th March 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the Easter break, sincere thanks to you for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter has had a settled and successful term here at Ruskin. We rely on the input of parents/carers heavily in terms of attitudes to learning, attendance and appropriate behaviour.

Thank you, also, to my colleagues who have worked exceptionally hard to offer students not only a range of learning opportunities during lesson time, but also a wealth of options during extra curricular time. I cannot underestimate the time given by staff to lunchtime clubs and also to evening events. These are all unpaid, and place demands on the personal lives of staff. Sincere thanks to all staff for this, supporting and extending learning is extremely important to our Ruskin team.

You will be aware that we are consulting over a Multi Academy Trust arrangement with Sandbach High School (Girls) and Sixth Form College. This is an exciting collaboration that already exists informally. Over the past two years, our schools have been sharing resources and now we plan to make this a formal arrangement within a Trust called The Saxon Crosses Multi Academy Trust. Please, read the information that is shared on the school website and contact me at school if you have any questions or comments. Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the information that has been shared on our website.

You will have seen information in the local and national press regarding the proposed changes to the National Funding Formula for schools. Clearly, cuts to funding will inevitably impact seriously on schools. I would urge you to read the information available and continue to lobby for changes to be made. At Ruskin, we will continue to do all we can to ensure that students receive as many opportunities as possible but funding cuts will affect us, too. I would like to reassure parents that a 'four day week' will not be adopted at Ruskin, however, despite press coverage.

You will also have received a letter, via the school website, outlining some proposed changes to the timing of the school day from September 2017. Please, contact us at school if you have any queries or comments. We anticipate that this will be a positive change to our school day, and that it will maximise learning.

I continue to receive positive comments from local neighbours, schools and businesses about the smart uniform that we wear. It does make a difference and it sets our students apart. Please, remind your son/daughter that smart uniform on the way to and from school is essential in further enhancing our reputation as a school with high standards. On that note, I am disappointed to mention that, recently, scuffles on the way home from school between students have increased. This immediately affects our reputation and cannot and will not be tolerated. Therefore, any fighting on the gate or on the way home will result in an immediate exclusion from school. It is not acceptable and this serves as a clear warning.

I am delighted to inform parents that our school is heavily oversubscribed again this year. We have had in the region of 160 applications for 140 places. Our traditional ethos and high standards are sought after, and we look forward to welcoming new students to our school in September. Being part of an oversubscribed school is a positive asset for students and staff alike.

cont...

HIGH STANDARDS
HIGH ACHIEVERS



At this time of year, our Year 11 students will be heavily into their revision programmes as they approach the GCSE examination series for 2017. We wish them well as they reach the most important point in their education so far. With exams being critical now, and with standards being raised even further, it is important that students complete homework and revision tasks regularly, regardless of the year group that they are in. You will recall that we held parent information evenings earlier in the year where we talked about exam only assessment. To be able to do justice in the final exams, students will need to revisit and revise work regularly, from Year 7 onwards. Please, encourage your son/daughter to do some revision over the Easter break. It is important to remember that, if students do not achieve the expected standard in English and Maths, that they now have to continue to study (and resit) these subjects when they move to Sixth Form or College.

I would like to wish you all a relaxing Easter break. If you need to contact me regarding any school matters, then my email is brette@ruskin.cheshire.sch.uk

Yours sincerely



E S Brett (Mrs)
Headteacher

Please note: School returns on **Tuesday 18th April, 2017** – Week 1 of the timetable.
The term 'parent' refers to parent/carer throughout this letter.

School will be closed on **Friday 14th July, 2017** for staff training (INSET).

Uniform Reminder:

Please, remember our expectations in terms of school style skirts and trousers; appropriate shoes; acceptable haircuts and colours. In addition, 'hoodies' are not acceptable in school.

Forthcoming Events Summer Half-Term 2017:

Monday 17th April	Easter Monday – school closed
Thursday 20th April	Year 9 Parents' Evening – Reports issued
Monday 1st May	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 15th May	Year 7 Reports issued
Monday 29th May	Hall-term holiday – school closed
Monday 5th June	School re-opens – Week 1 of the timetable

Please note certain dates might be subject to change.