



ABINGDON

From: Dr Chris Burnand : Master of Scholars

7 September 2018

To parents

Scholars' Events

I hope the scholars are all settling down to the new academic year after an enjoyable holiday, and some extremely impressive exam results. As ever, I am writing to alert you to the scholars' events, which we expect them all to attend in the forthcoming term. We would be very grateful if you could put these dates in your diaries so that they can be kept free by the boys.

Even more importantly I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Mr Jamison as my new colleague in looking after the scholars. Following the departure of Mr Hallinan in the summer, I am delighted that Mr Jamison has taken on the role of looking after the middle-school scholars.

As parents you are very welcome to attend all our talks, but if you wish to come to Oliver Sayeed's it would be useful if you could let me know in advance as space will be more limited in the CMR.

On Monday 24 September at 5.30pm Dr Sally Rogers will be speaking in the Amey Theatre on the title: 'The Poetry of Everything'. She is a Senior Lecturer at Leeds College of Music, and gained her PhD in Modern Poetics and Music from the University of St Andrews. Her talk will focus on her academic research which considers the historical impact of recording technologies on lyric forms of poetry. DJ, producer, singer, lyricist and academic, she will also discuss how her love and understanding of poetry informs all aspects of her career. This talk is for ALL scholars (not just middle-school ones as it says mistakenly in the calendar). It will be over at 6.30pm.

The second event of the term will take place on Friday 5 October, beginning at 6pm in the Amey Theatre. This will be the occasion of a range of presentations by our own boys – middle-school and sixth-form – which will be followed by the annual dinner to which middle-school scholars and their parents are invited. Mr Jamison will be writing separately to the parents of middle-school scholars with further, more detailed information about this event, a letter which will also contain further details of the programme in place for middle-school scholars this term (including a trip for the fifth year academic scholars to Oxford on Monday 29 October).

We also expect all academic scholars to attend the EPQ presentation evening on Friday 23 November, which will begin at 5.45pm. At this event some thirty Upper Sixth students will be delivering a range of talks based on independent research conducted over the last twelve months. It should be a fascinating evening.

The final big event of the term will be on Thursday 13 December, when we are delighted to be welcoming Oliver Sayeed. Oliver is a OA who studied linguistics with distinction at Cambridge, and is now studying for his DPhil in linguistics in the US at the University of Pennsylvania. He will be speaking about the scientific study of language change in a talk entitled, 'Latin grammar: a two-thousand-year-old meme?'. This talk will be in the CMR at 5.15pm and will be over at 6.15pm.

As ever, we would also urge the boys to go to as many as they can of the departmental events advertised in the calendar. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or suggestions for

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future speakers: we have some ideas in the pipeline, but as ever further possibilities are always hugely welcome.

Yours sincerely

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