



From: Master of Scholars, Dr Chris Burnand

17 September 2021

Dear Parents

Scholars' events this term

I hope all the scholars are settling down to a new academic year, which is – for the moment at least – a little more normal than the last two. It was very pleasing to see again some really excellent exam results from them, even if the grading process was a bit different from the norm once more.

It is particularly nice to be able to write once more of forthcoming scholarship events, all of which we expect scholars to attend in the forthcoming term. We would be very grateful if you could put these four dates in your diaries so that they can be kept free – all scholars of all types are expected to attend these events. As parents, you are once again very welcome to attend all these talks in person, providing that the covid situation does not take a turn for the worse.

On Friday 24 September, at 5.30pm in the Amey Theatre, there will be an evening of presentations by our pupils, both by those in the current Lower Sixth who produced the best STEP (Summer Term Extension Programme) projects last term after their GCSE assessments were finished and those in the current Upper Sixth who produced the most interesting summer research projects. The event, which celebrates the best of the independent research undertaken, will be finished by 7pm, and parents are especially encouraged to come to hear about the exciting work that has been done.

The second event of the term is on Thursday 30 September at 5.30pm in the Amey Theatre. Owen Matthews, acclaimed historian and journalist, will be talking on the title 'How to Get Ahead by Lying to Everyone: Richard Sorge, A Life In Espionage'. This talk, based upon his recently published book which was shortlisted for the Pushkin House Prize, will be over at 6.30pm.

The final event before half term will take place on Friday 8 October, beginning at 6.00pm in the Amey Theatre. This will feature a range of presentations by our own middle-school scholars, 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 and Wytham Woods on Tuesday 9 November).

The last event of term is on Tuesday 16 November, when (again at 5.30pm in the Amey Theatre), we are fortunate enough to welcome Peter Williams, entrepreneur and founder of clothing company Jack Wills and more recently Aubin & Wills. Peter's talk will explore his life in business, and the challenges and opportunities for companies in 2021. This talk will be over at 6.30pm.

As ever, we would also urge the scholars to go to as many of the departmental events advertised in the calendar as possible. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or suggestions for future speakers: we have some ideas in the pipeline, but as ever further possibilities are always hugely welcome.

Yours sincerely

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