Canterbury Principals letter
Mar-17

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Dear Parents/Agents/Students

I am delighted to enclose the latest report on work this term.

As you know, we are entering an important exam period for many of our students, although for those with no exams, many lessons continue as normal throughout the summer term.

Lessons will continue for all AEM, AS, IB1, January-start UFP, GCSE and PRE students until the 15th June when term ends and our Graduation Ceremony for students takes place in the Gulbenkian Theatre. Foundation students are expected to be in college when their results come out and to attend Graduation. Parents of graduating students are warmly invited to this afternoon event and students will leave to go home later that day or on the 15th June. It would be very helpful for parents to confirm attendance as soon as you receive your invitation in April, as places are limited and many of our non-graduating students are very keen to attend if places are available. Pre, GCSE and AEM graduation takes place on 14th June. The student Prom takes place on Friday 9th June at the Harris Rooms at Canterbury Cricket Ground. For students who have finished exams, Teachers will run enrichment sessions until the end of the term. For those students with exams after the end of the summer term, they will be able to stay at College until their last exam is over. For students graduating in June, this is their final report as it contains targets they need to meet in order to do well in their exams.
CATS University Fair

We have just held our University Fair. We were visited by over 25 Universities that gave the opportunity for all students to discuss their future studies and the choice of places to go and also for those to meet staff at the University they have already received offers for.
Attendance

I am delighted to say that our overall attendance at lessons across the College remains extremely high (98% average).

It is particularly important that students attend all lessons and are on time for the start of every lesson. We have regularly reminded students that if their attendance falls below 95% or work set is not completed, they may be withdrawn from exams and have to sit them next year.

Activities in the evenings and after school

The students enjoyed a European culture evening. Nikol from iGCSE1 gave a very impressive presentation about Bulgaria and the students had some really interesting questions to ask her about the Bulgarian national holidays. We also have a Mexican evening.

We also have a number of trips planned for next term to give students time to relax at the weekends from all their revision. Harry Potter World and Paintballing plus other local activities.
Recent Trips, Training and Leadership

Some of our students have been out and about places to help them improve their subject knowledge and develop new skills. We have a trip to CSR Radio for Media students, a trip to the Tower of London after a lecture on the Tutors by experts from a number of Universities for our A Level and UFP History students. The students also had the opportunity to hear a talk on the Art of Codebreaking by Dr J Watkins of University of Kent.
The IB2 students held an Art Exhibition within the college showing their art work for their end of year exams. There was an interesting array of different techniques all done to a high standard.
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A small number of our students went to New York to take part in the Model United Nations. They took part in debates and discussions on issues that are affecting our world today.
Over the Holiday

Don’t forget to work hard on your revision!

Remember revision is an ACTIVE process – make sure you do diagrams, pictures, mind maps – anything which helps you change information from one format to another! Read your CATS revision booklet which will help remind you of how to revise effectively. You have worked hard and I wish all our students the very best over the Easter period.

Student Feedback

Our ‘Tell Us’ button continues to be very popular and is used regularly by students

All they have to do is go on line and press the button and they can feedback to us really easily – both the good things and the things they would like to see improved. It gives us a brilliant way to keep in touch all round, and responses get back to students usually within 24 hours in a working week.

Students commented that they had never been at a College that encouraged them to say what they thought like this, and listened so carefully to what they had to say. It is one of the reasons why British Government Inspectors graded the College as Excellent in its boarding provision.

Insurance

Can I just remind students...

That it is important to have your own personal insurance for belongings while you are in the UK and as some of you head for university. There are very reasonable packages you can buy for students. However, no insurance policy will pay out unless you lock up valuables safely and keep doors locked – wherever you are staying.
If you have any concerns...

Or would like to talk further about the reports, please do not hesitate to contact the College and we will be pleased to discuss any educational or other issues with you.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Jonathan Ullmer MBE
Principal of CATS College Canterbury
Preparing you for university success