

The Warriner School

Responsible - Respectful – Ready

A member of The Warriner Multi
Academy Trust

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Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Happy New Year! I think I can just about get away with wishing you that, even on a Friday 13th!

I hope you and yours all had a peaceful Christmas and New Year holiday and welcome back to the next stage of the 2022-23 academic year. It has been really pleasing to see the students coming back into school, obviously ready for their new year challenges and, as I look at the school calendar, I can see that we have a busy few terms ahead of us.

It was with much regret that we had to postpone our Christmas Concert at the end of last term, due to illness, but it has meant that we now have next Thursday's Concert of Light to look forward to in St. Mary's church, Banbury, starting at 7pm. I have heard the students rehearsing all week and they sound fantastic, so do please come along to support and enjoy this special evening with us and thanks to Mrs Webb and Mr McCaig for organising.

If you have a child in Year 9, please look out for information about their up-coming GCSE Options. Option Subjects will be holding taster sessions during the week beginning 23rd January and this is to help all students have a real understanding about different GCSEs and their content, criteria and expectations. There will be various assemblies about this process, and you will have the opportunity, virtually, to find out more on Thursday 9th February – please look out for this. We are going to guide all students through this important process very carefully in order that they can make good GCSE choices.

Years 11 and 13 are working hard towards their final exams in the summer and to support their studying we have placed a second set of mocks in the Spring term, starting the week beginning Monday 27th February. Their teachers are currently preparing them for these exams, and I know there are many opportunities for students to attend various revision sessions and I hope that if your child is invited to any revision sessions, that they take up the opportunity. If you have any questions about the exams, please ensure that you contact your child's tutor in the first instance. One extra point I would like to make is about attendance between now and exams – if a child achieves 97% or above attendance, they have the best chance of achieving at least their GCSE & A Level target grades. Obviously if your child is ill



then attendance will be impacted upon but if all other reasons for absence are kept to an absolute minimum, then they are giving themselves the best opportunity for success.

Lastly, however, illnesses caused by viruses are still very much a part of school life, sadly, and here is a reminder on how to slow down the spread of these viruses:

COVID-19 and scarlet fever

As winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels and pupils are returning to education, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has published a [reminder on how to minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings](#).

We hope to see you next Thursday and I hope you have a great weekend.

With very best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Nicholls'.

Sharon Nicholls
Head of School