

The Warriner School

Responsible - Respectful – Ready

A member of The Warriner Multi
Academy Trust

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Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

I hope my final letter of the academic year finds you well and looking forward to some family-time throughout the summer holidays.

Every year I write – ‘what a year it has been!’ – and the 2023-24 academic year has been no exception. We started the year with a very successful Ofsted inspection in September and have ended the year with a plethora of awards: Dylan McCaig’s, ‘Outstanding New Teacher’, award, the PE Department winning not one but two: Education Business Awards - School Sports Award and School Games; Gold Award and the whole school achieving, once more, our ‘Flagship Status’ for our work with young people around inclusion and diversity. However, I never lose sight of the fact that we would not be able to achieve any of these accolades without our talented staff, incredible students and the support of the wider school community, so ‘thank you’ for being part of all of this.

Language change

I just wanted to ensure that all parents are aware of a small change in the way we name tutor groups – from September 2024 we will no longer use the word ‘tutor’ but will use, instead, ‘mentor’ – so we will have mentor groups, which are led by mentors, not tutors. It is a subtle shift, but with our increased focus on our relational practices, we want to reflect this slight change in the way we work with our students: tutors tend to focus on a specific area of academic progress, whilst mentors focus on the overall flourishing and growth of a young person – to include both the academic and the pastoral development of our students. Therefore, next term, when your child talks about their ‘mentor’ or their ‘mentor group’ or you get a phone call from your child’s ‘mentor,’ you will understand this change in language. For any new parents reading this letter I would like to emphasise the importance of your child’s mentors being the first point of communication with school if you need to discuss anything school related. They will then try to help and/or signpost to the relevant members of staff.

Attendance

An important factor of positive mentoring and academic success is that students attend school regularly – and we deem good attendance to be at least 97% and above. Over the last year our attendance team have been providing vital support to a number of students and their families to help them achieve this target. We also understand the importance of building positive relationships with families, for students to want to attend school regularly in the first place. With this in mind, our regular attendance newsletters, family coffee mornings/afternoons and family quizzes have proved to be popular this year and we hope to do more of these events next year. However, if you have any concerns over your child’s attendance, for whatever reason, please do not hesitate to contact either your child’s mentor or our attendance officer, Ms Lowe, in the first instance: r.lowe@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

Examination Results Days



If you have a child waiting for A Level or GCSE results this August – good luck! I know just how challenging this time can be for parents. Happily, we were very impressed with the level of commitment the students showed throughout the exam season and we wish them all well with their results, whatever they are.

A Level results will be available on **Thursday 15th August 2024 from 8.30am** in the Sixth Form Centre.

GCSE results will be available on **Thursday 22nd August from 8.30am** in the Sixth Form Centre.

There will be celebration *and* support for all students on both days but if you need to have the results sent to you because you cannot be around on the day, please contact our Examination Officer, Jacqui Shepherd: j.shepherd@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

Also, on our website there is a lot of useful information about results days and, most importantly, post-results: [The Warriner School - Examinations](#)

Staff Leavers

I am sure you will join me in wishing two colleagues well in their forthcoming retirement – Julie Wood and Jackie Bartlett.

Julie has led our Reprographic Department commendably for many years and staff will miss her immensely. Her work managing our DofE programme has been equally impressive, with The Warriner School having one of the largest and most successful programmes on offer in the area. Julie has supported hundreds of young people through the programme and worked tirelessly to ensure they have a great experience. She has also done a wonderful job of engaging other members of staff with DofE and building a team to support the delivery of such a large programme. Julie also received a DofE, 'Long Service Award' at a special tea last week.

Jackie is our Finance Officer for school excursions, so I am sure many of you will remember her from organising many hundreds of school visits (which equals thousands of students) over the years. She, too, will be much missed by us all and she also enjoyed a special 'thank you' tea last week.

New academic year

We look forward to our new Year 7 students and new year 12 students meeting their new mentors on **Wednesday 4th September**. The details of which will have been sent to you directly. If you have any questions about this day, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Maggs for Year 7s: a.maggs@warriner.oxon.sch.uk or Ms Campbell for Year 12s: r.campbell@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

For all other year groups, school begins on **Thursday 5th September at 8.25am**.

As a help for preparation, here is a link to our uniform (Years 7-11) and dress code (Year 12-13): [The Warriner School - Uniform](#)

Celebration Evening

Lastly, I really hope you will be able to join us at Bloxham's St Mary's Church tomorrow evening – **Tuesday 23rd July at 7pm** – for our Summer Celebration Concert. We will be entertained with delightful music from our very talented students and their teachers, Mrs Webb and Mr McCaig. The music will also complement our end of year student awards, when our most talented, committed, and impressive students will be celebrated publicly.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely summer break.

Best wishes and see you in September.



Sharon Nicholls
Head of School