



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 2 September 2015

A Time of Change

How you can help us to support your child

Welcome to the start of the new academic year. We hope you had a relaxing summer.

We would like to congratulate all our students who passed exams last June – there were some outstanding individual results. Many students gained a high number of A* and A grades and we are proud that nearly 100% of our Year 11 students left our school with at least 5 A*G grades including English and Maths.

On Tuesday evening the Governing Body of the school met and we discussed the huge changes that have taken place in Education over the last few years. These changes have had an impact on our usually high standards of achievement and the success of last year was overshadowed by the fact that a small number of students did not achieve their potential.

The changes to our education system will continue and it is clear that exams will be tougher, more rigorous and longer. Gosford Hill has come a long way over the last 5 years. Together with the Headteacher and his staff the Governors are determined to maintain the high standards we set ourselves to ensure every student is successful. We need your continued support.

How you can support your child

As Headteacher I have given every student a very clear message this year:

High Ambition
High Expectations
High Challenge
High Support

This means that we will continue to do all we can to support your child. You can help by ensuring they attend school every day, on time, in the correct uniform and with the right equipment. We know the vast majority of parents do this but we need all parents to support us.

Home learning is another indicator of success. Teachers set work for students to do at home every week and it is essential that students complete this work and hand it in on time (a letter outlining these expectations is on the reverse of this newsletter).

With more difficult examinations, work completed at home can make the difference to your child's future.

Working together

Gosford Hill has always prided itself on working with parents and the local community. We have real ambition for this school to be outstanding and are in the process of a new five year plan. Once complete, we will share this with you. In a changing world we have to ensure that we continue to improve and work together to ensure your child receives the best education.

We look forward to working with you on this new journey.

Anna Moon
Chair of Governors

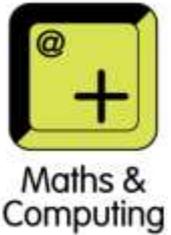
Stephen Bizley
Headteacher



GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL

Learn Lead Inspire

A Specialist College for Mathematics & Computing
Headteacher: Dr Stephen Bizley



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: **Home Learning**

The new term has begun and hopefully your son or daughter has already begun studying at home. We ask that all Gosford Hill School students read for at least 15 minutes a day and complete all home learning tasks as set by their teachers. It is crucial for your son or daughter that they work at home as it has been proven to have a positive impact on their exam grades. A recent study by the University of Cambridge found that children who did an hour's worth of study or reading added, on average, 5 grades to their GCSE scores.

If your son or daughter finds it difficult to work at home, or if they would prefer to work at school, we have 'Study Support' sessions every day in the Learning Centre. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays there will be teachers present to help with home learning. On Mondays and Fridays the Learning Centre Manager will be there to offer help if needed. Your son or daughter can even buy a drink and a snack at extremely low prices if they are hungry!

If your son or daughter does not complete their home learning or it is not completed to a satisfactory standard they will be asked to attend 'Study Support' to complete the work. You will receive a letter home if this is the case. Please can you remind your son or daughter to attend the 'Study Support' session as outlined in the letter.

In order to ensure students in Years 10 and 11 are well prepared for their GCSEs, we will be extending the school day from November for anyone who regularly fails to complete home learning tasks. This will be compulsory and will be reviewed on a regular basis. You will be informed if this affects your son or daughter.

Thank you for your help and support in ensuring your child realises their full potential.

Yours sincerely,

John O'Regan
Assistant Headteacher



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