

Dear families

Please see my message below sent to year 12 students this morning. After dealing with a very unpleasant matter at the start of this week I had to highlight matters relating to this for our students to consider, although I would like to reassure you that the people responsible for the vile postings were not from our school. On a much more positive note, I am very much looking forward to receiving applications for the positions of senior prefects.

I wish you all an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend

Best wishes
Nicholas Griffith

Dear year 12

Last weekend, there was an horrific social media post that affected our school community and served to highlight again the dangers of social media when used in such negative ways. I have prepared some resources that I have shared with your House Mentors and asked them to deliver to you in NSI on Monday 10th. I have focused on the issue of street harassment and hope that the lesson will make you think about your interactions with others and about misogynistic behaviour you have witnessed. In preparation I would like you to read and reflect on the attached comic strip and article linked below.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/oct/23/toxic-masculinity-men-privilege-emotions-rizzle-kicks>

One of the impacts of covid-19 on school life is that there has been a far more limited role for our school prefect body this year but I am excited to start planning today to work with many of you in these roles. I would like to invite you to apply at this stage for a Senior Prefect position. Fourteen people will be given one of these roles – two Heads of School and twelve Heads of House covering our six Houses. I would like to make it clear to students who joined us in September that their applications will be very welcome along with those who have been here longer. The deadline for making an application is Sunday 7th May and I would ask that you send me a letter written in Word and attached to an email.

The letter should begin 'Dear Mr Griffith. I wish to apply for a Senior Prefect position' and then outline how you have shown commitment and support for the school and what you could bring to the role. Please limit yourself to 600 words. Once all letters have been received I will outline the next step of the process to the applicants. This is a good opportunity to practice your letter writing skills and some of the content will prove useful when it comes to UCAS applications. It is clear to me that this is an excellent year group and I am looking forward to reading your letters.

Once students have been appointed to these roles, there will be a second round of applications for a wider variety of positions such as sports captains, Heads of CCF sections, pastoral prefects with responsibility for working with younger pupils and several others.

Parents' Evening is 12th May and bookings will be open soon. Please leave school at 3.15 that day to ensure that you are home and ready to join your parents.

As always, please do keep testing yourself for covid. There are packs in my office for you to help yourself to.

Finally, a reminder that there is no school on Monday as it is a Bank Holiday. I wish you a lovely weekend and hope you can do something nice to relax. I'm off to the beach.

Best wishes

Mr Griffith