



23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

The GCSE, AS, BTEC and A Level exams are well underway and I have been extremely impressed with the maturity that our students have shown applying themselves to revision and study. Intervention sessions are running throughout half term and students who are required to attend have been advised.

Our students continue to excel across the board in a variety of sporting, musical, drama and academic successes. We have the highest number of athletes qualifying for the County Athletic Championships in July. Huge congratulations to Finlay Moore, Luke Lom Hynes, Rowan Smith, Abi Jones, Molly Kinnon, Olivia Phelps and Olivia D'Aversa who are competing in a range of field and track events. Katie Crowhurst remains to be a force to be reckoned with in British Para Swimming with her ever increasing collection of Gold medals, and Ethan Quinn's West End success continues with further starring roles in "Goodnight Mr Tom" and a recent award for his performance in "13".

Our highly regarded Cox Green band performed for the Prime Minister at the Cox Green Fete and Mr McDonough has been presented with a Silver ISM certificate following his excellent exam results last year, which puts us in the top 187 schools across England.

The Science Department have celebrated much success; James Meyrick, Jessica Richard, Oliver Shiel and Lucy Langdale were awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for their poster on 'Commercial uses of fungi – what fungi do for us' and Year 7 should be congratulated for their creativity in the Oxford University Physics Poster Competition, in particular Natasha Sloan, Megan McDonnell and Anneka Kang. Holly Chinnery was the Cox Green School winner of the Lab Coat design competition and we find out in July if she is the overall winner to win a class set of lab coats! Our STEM café sessions have been regularly attended this term by a range of students and parents. We have been lucky enough to secure Sophie Payne (Senior Project Manager, Atkins) who was named Young Female Engineer of the Year 2017. She is keen to increase awareness of engineering for our students and encourage females to enter the profession. We would like to thank all our external speakers because they really do help our students to see the wider applications of Science.

Students have enjoyed theatre trips to watch "DNA" and "War Horse" and the "Year 7 Crashes Cox Green" sleepover event was another huge success (with some bleary eyed staff the following day). These events couldn't run without the investment of our staff and I am sure you will join me in thanking them for going above and beyond with their commitment to our students and the school.

Our Careers Adviser Mrs McKay has been working hard with the Year 10's offering advice and guidance so that they can make an informed decision on what to do after GCSE's. Follow up actions have been recorded on Doodle; please ask your child to check! Our Year 12 students are encouraged to seek a work placement in July and Mrs McKay has offered cv workshops and 1:1 session to support them in this process. However, if you have any queries or can offer any opportunities please contact her at [s.mckay@coxgreen.com](mailto:s.mckay@coxgreen.com).

Many students have been awarded achievement certificates this week and I was delighted to see that several Bronze and Silver awards have now been presented. At the time of writing, Year 10 student James Meyrick was leading the school with 775 positive points; Year 7 students Daniel Mocaj and Tamsin Morries were following closely behind.

The Sixth Form community have continued to volunteer within the school through providing additional subject tuition and reading buddy support, as well as within the wider community through the "Singing for Health" charity, supporting Wessex Junior School and teaching ballet to young children. Off the pitch the Sports Academy students

continue to embed themselves within the school community in particular supporting a Yr. 7 mentoring scheme and coordinating a Yr. 7 Futsal in house tournament.

The Innovate catering team have prepared some amazing vegetarian meals for National Vegetarian week and continue to do a wonderful job keeping staff and students fed and watered throughout the day. We are upgrading our cashless catering system after half term and students will be re-registered on the system using an algorithm based scan, which reads a number of points on the finger/thumb. It is not a fingerprint in any way, shape or form and is of use only in the cashless system. We do not take or store any finger prints and the system will work in the same way including the on line top up of funds.

The building project remains on track and we are incredibly excited with the teaching environments that have been created. The students have coped extremely well with the reduced space and impact of having major building works going on around them.

Please note that there is a small change regarding the start of term arrangements in September, for Years 8-11 and Year 13. New year 7 students return to school on Tuesday 4th September; Year 12 students return on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September and all other students (Years 8-11 and Year 13) return on Thursday 6th September at 8.40am.

We pride ourselves on having a fantastic relationship with our neighbours, however we have had several complaints from residents regarding inconsiderate and dangerous parking outside their properties. Please be aware that this does not only cause inconvenience but can create road safety issues for pedestrians and students leaving school. There will be a PCSO on duty in the coming weeks ensuring that parking is undertaken respectfully and safely and fines will potentially be issued for drivers who are not adhering to the rules. Please think before you park!

We look forward to welcoming Ms Leary to our English department in June. Sadly, we say goodbye to Miss Barrett, who leaves us for a new school in Aylesbury. We wish her the very best in her new role.

I understand that the weather is going to be extremely warm over the weekend; continuing into next week so please enjoy a relaxing week off and stay safe in the sun!

Thank you all for your continued support of the school.

Kind regards

Frances Walsh  
Headteacher

#### Dates for the Diary 2018:

Monday 4th June	Start of Student Term 6
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	KS3 presentation evening (Invitation only)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	School closes at 12.35pm for students. (Year 7 September 2018 intake meetings.)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 11 into 12 Induction Day
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Leavers Event
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 13 Leavers Event
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 13 Prom
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Headteacher Surgery 4-6.30pm (Contact <a href="mailto:e.mackenzie@coxgreen.com">e.mackenzie@coxgreen.com</a> for an appt.)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 11 Prom
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 12 Work placements
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	School Sports Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term 6 - School closes at 12.40pm