



Think for yourself, act for others

Mr Stacey, Head of Student Progress Years 9 and 11

16 July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Moving from Year 10 to Year 11

The Year 11 Team

It has been a fantastic year for Year 10 at Cheney School. Looking forward to Year 11, next year will be your child's most challenging to date and also the most rewarding.

Following on from our staff changes letter in June, you will be aware that from September we will be supporting our students with a new structure. As Head of Student Progress for Year 11, I will have overall responsibility for the academic outcomes of students as well as prime responsibility for improving the school's provision for learning for all young people within my year groups.

Working alongside me will be **Miss Clear**, Pastoral Leader for Year 11. If your child needs support, our Pastoral Leaders are there to listen, offer help and advice, try to resolve problems, or just offer a quiet space to think. Miss Clear will celebrate your child's successes and achievements and work with me to ensure that our care for your child promotes their achievement and well-being. In addition, the team will enjoy the support of our Pastoral Assistant, **Mr Haines**, who will have a particular focus on attendance and punctuality. If your child is ill or absent from school you should contact **Mr Haines** in the first instance, for any other issues or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Miss Clear.

Mr Haines is your first point of contact if your child is ill or absent from school:

Email: THN@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Phone: **01865 755279**

For any other issues or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Miss Clear:

Email: TST@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Phone: **01865 755236**

Email: RCL@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Phone: **01865 755238**

Preparing for Year 11

As you are aware, next year will be very important for your son/daughter as they take their GCSE examinations. It is important that they are well-prepared for Year 11, ready to hit the ground running in September.

To help with your son/daughter's preparation, we have put together some guidance for summer work and reading in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. This guidance can be found at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zu0sGifmfm0YDlfb400eXLSeFpYDks6vuoBC0epRQQw/edit?usp=sharing>

We recognise the importance of having a break between academic years for the wellbeing of students, but we are also confident that the work we are expecting is reasonable and sensible for all students. Carrying out the work will help them to be prepared academically for the new year and will also help in developing and practising the independent study skills which students who achieve highly in their GCSEs invariably have.

**Head**

Rupert Moreton, BA, MA, M.Ed

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We would be very grateful if you could strongly encourage your son/daughter to do the work and reading. It would also be great if you can encourage them to return to Cheney in September ready to tackle, with significant effort, the challenges of GCSE preparation and to take advantage of the revision support opportunities that are offered to them. The link also has a section on revision advice which we recommend students read.

Furthermore, we would encourage all students to be reading for at least 20 minutes a day to develop their vocabulary and reading speed, as well as having a better understanding of current political, economic and social affairs; in addition, reading is a great way for students to look after their wellbeing, as it has been well documented as a good form of stress relief. We encourage students to read a wide variety of texts, for example, fictional novels, newspaper articles, and magazines, to help them develop a breadth of understanding.

Practicalities for September

For Year 11, our Cheney School Conduct remains the same regarding punctuality, attendance, effort and behaviour, and uniform. This can all be viewed on our [website](#). If any of the above have been problematic this year, then you would have received a separate letter from me. Obviously students need to ensure they arrive to school with all their correct equipment to learn as we wouldn't expect 'any' disturbance to learning within lessons, especially this being your child's most important year at school.

- **Equipment: you will need to provide standard equipment in your child's pencil case**, please find this detailed below:
 - 2 Blue/Black Pens
 - 2 Pencils
 - 2 Highlighters
 - 2 Purple Pens
 - A Rubber
 - A Sharpener
 - A Ruler
 - Maths Equipment/Calculator
- **Reading book, Equipment and Prepared for Learning (REP):** in a new literacy initiative, all students are also required to have a reading book with them in school at all times next year, either one they bring in from home or a school library book
- **Uniform:** you will have received a separate letter regarding our uniform policy, and guidelines can be seen on the school website <http://www.cheney.oxon.sch.uk/Uniform> where there is also a link to the Stevensons website. If you need new uniform items, Stevensons have recommended that you place your order/shop as early as possible to avoid the busy period in late September. They also want us to remind parents that they have extended opening hours at their Banbury Road shop during the summer months. **Please ensure that all uniform is labelled, especially PE kits and winter coats. If possible please use iron-on or sewn labels.**
- **First day school timings:** the first day of the new term for Year 11 students is on **Tuesday 4 September**. School starts at **8.30am** and the first day will end at the new time of **3.10pm**. Students will be expected to attend their Tutor Rooms at the start of the school day to ensure they are fully equipped with information for the day ahead. There will be lists of Tutors and Tutor Rooms posted around the school site.

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- **Dropping / collecting and parking around school:** we endeavour to promote healthy-living, independence and environmental awareness among our students and as such, we encourage all students to make their own way to school on foot, by bike or using public transport. We hope you can support us with this, but if you do wish to bring or pick up your child by car, please note that there is no available parking or turning space on site (unless you have a special arrangement with the school) or on Cheney Lane or at the junction with Warneford Lane. There is limited on-street parking on Warneford Lane towards Morrell Avenue. If your child is cycling to school, please be reminded to provide them with a cycle helmet and a lock for storing their bike safely in the bicycle shed during the school day.

The School Day, Term Dates and Key Dates

As mentioned above and in previous correspondence, the timings of the school day will be changing for September. Please find below the timings of the school day.

Tutor Time	8.30-8.55am
Transition between lessons	8.55-9.00am
Period 1	9.00-10.00am
Break	10.00-10.30am
Period 2	10.30-11.30am
Transition between lessons	11.30-11.35am
Period 3	11.35-12.35pm
Lunch	12.35-1.05pm
Period 4	1.05-2.05pm
Transition between lessons	2.05-2.10pm
Period 5	2.10-3.10pm

Next year there will be many different opportunities to look forward to including University, College and Sixth Form visits, our aspirational careers trip, our Careers Event, as well as Parents' Evenings, Mock Exams, final GCSE's, and the Year 11 Prom. Many of the dates for these are already decided and noted below. Otherwise, please keep an eye on the [school website](#) where the calendar will be regularly updated. We really encourage you to try to attend the parent and information evenings; this is a unique opportunity to visit the learning



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environment and to talk to the staff who work with your child every day, to discuss their successes and achievements and any issues or concerns.

Please make a note of the following key dates for Year 11 parents:

Term 1

- Tuesday 4 September - first day at school
- Friday 12 October - Progress report 1

Term 2

- Week beginning 5 November – Mock Exams (English and Maths)
- Thursday 22 November – Sixth Form Open Evening
- Monday 26 November - Friday 7 December Mock Exams

Term 3

- Friday 11 January - Progress report 2
- Thursday 17 January – Parent’s Evening and Internal Open Evening for Sixth Form

Term 4

- Week beginning 25 February – deadline for Sixth Form applications

Term 5

- Friday 26 April - Progress report 3

A Message from our Librarian - Summer Photo Competition

All students are invited to take part in the summer photo competition. Take a photo of yourself indulging in some summer reading – with a twist! Bizarre locations, silly positions, daft outfits encouraged. The best photo will win a prize and all entries will be displayed in the library.

For example, what about reading through the shelves in a supermarket, or whilst wearing a silly costume, or whilst covered in sand on the beach? Nothing dangerous though; we don’t want any broken limbs!

Please email your photo to Mrs Fenton on jfe@cheney.oxon.sch.uk.

Here at Cheney, our message to students has always been, ‘be respectful and try your best’, and if your child does this then they should always feel very proud. We will always help and support your child fulfil their full potential and we are certain that, come August 2019, they will feel proud of their achievements.

We wish you and your family a wonderful summer.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Stacey'.

Tom Stacey

Head of Student Progress Year 9 and 11