

4th November 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

We, in the 14-19 phase, hope you've had a good break and we're pleased to welcome all students back for the second half of this autumn term.

We have lots to look forward to starting with the postponed Prom on Friday 12th November 2021. It should be a great night of food, dancing and fun with the added bonus of catching up with past students and staff. Look out for photos on Facebook.

Starting with Diwali this term brings with it many celebrations and festivals which we will be integrating into the curriculum. Interfaith week is from 14th to 21st November, this is a celebration of the contribution faith makes to society and people's lives. Hanukah is at the end of November/start of December. The term will end with Christmas celebrations. Hopefully this year we'll be able to get out carol singing.

In late November (24th) we will be holding a Transition Evening: you've all had your invitations. Different colleges and further education providers will be attending. There will also be information on where to seek support to ease students' transition from Foxwood and to enhance their future lives. The older students in the phase have already had a careers interview. The schedule for interviews will continue this term and we're hoping we can start college visits too. If you have any questions about careers and college applications, you're welcome to get in touch with me or Laura Wright who is leading on careers.

Over the last 2 years it has been very difficult if not impossible for students to visit many colleges. It is looking as though there will be more opportunities this year. In fact, there is an open evening for Foundation Learning at the Basford site of Nottingham College on the evening of Tuesday 9th November. Their websites outline details of open evenings for other courses too. We are aware that tours of Landmarks Specialist College are now available and can be booked on their website.

The home/school partnership is key to getting the best outcomes for students. Online safety is one area where co-operation is vital. As you're aware the nights are getting darker, so students are likely to be on their phones and using social media more often than usual. On the back of this letter we've included some advice on safe gaming and here is a link to a parents' support website: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>.

We are all very much looking forward to lots of learning and laughing this half term. As always please get in touch if you have any queries, concerns or just feel the need.

Kind regards and best wishes

Susan Porter

14-19 Phase Leader.

GAMING SAFETY

Follow these steps to stay safe online:

-  **Manage parental controls and access to paid games.**
-  **Make sure your privacy is protected, do not share personal information.**
-  **Create strong passwords and do not share them.**
-  **Avoid unnecessary payments and regularly check your credit card bills.**
-  **Report if you feel you are in danger of being exploited in any way.**