

25th April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back after the Easter break to all students and their families.

GCSE examinations

GCSE examinations will be starting in the next few weeks. The exams will run from May 15th to June 23rd. For all parents/carers of year 11 students you will find enclosed with this letter a copy of the exam timetable, please take time to go through this with your son. This is the first year of the implementation of the new 9 to 1 grading system. For English and maths your son will be awarded a grade from 9 to 1 instead of a grade A* - G. There is a more detailed explanation of the changes on this weblink: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgZYx_fycrM

Good luck to all of our year 11 students!

Ramadan

As you will be aware the holy month of Ramadan is due to commence for our Muslim students from around 26th May 2017 until Eid al-Fitr, around 25th June 2017. Ramadan is a period of prayer, increased religious devotion, self-reflection, self-control, charity-giving and expressing goodwill to others. Most noticeably it is a time of fasting and control over the need to eat and drink during daylight hours. As always, it will be a decision for families, parents and individual students whether they are of an age to fast, for how long they will fast and if they are legitimately exempt from fasting.

Fasting during exams can have a profound impact on the performance of students, which is all the more significant due to the commencement of GCSE examinations for our year 11 students, who have worked hard over the past 5 years in preparation for their final assessments. Therefore, please ensure your son is well prepared, ready and understands the likely effects on his body during fasting and that he manages these challenges well, by:

- eating well, with a balanced meal (containing all food groups) when breaking the fast at the evening meal (iftar) and during the pre-dawn meal (suhur) and drinking plenty of re-hydrating fluids between iftar and suhur;
- managing his sleep effectively;
- getting plenty of rest between examinations;
- avoiding over-exertion during the day, especially if the weather is particularly warm;
- planning ahead, in terms of organising his equipment and time, to avoid rushing around, and in terms of organising revision processes, to fit around prayers and other Ramadan specific practices, such as the Tarawih prayer or I'tikaf, if these are likely to be performed.

Parent/Carer event calendar

Enclosed with this letter you will find a calendar of events for Parents/Carers for the rest of this academic year. Please take the time to read it as it offers a wide variety of ways for you to get involved in your child's education and also learn more about what goes on when he is at school. Please contact Sarah Henderson on 0207 540 5620 or by email on sarah.henderson@rokeby.newham.sch.uk if you want to take part in any of the sessions or have any questions.

Help us to keep in contact with you

If you have moved residence or changed your phone/mobile number it is vital that you let reception know so that we can contact you if we need to and also make sure that letters get to the right person.

Keep up to date with all news and forthcoming events

Lots of important information such as term dates, events, uniform details, curriculum details and the latest copy of the **Rokeby Recorder** can be found on the Rokeby website. You can visit it at www.rokeby.newham.sch.uk

Dates for this half term

Monday 1st May – Bank Holiday – school closed

Thursday 11th May – Year 7 Parents' Evening, 3.30 – 6.00 pm

Friday 26th May – Year 11 Graduation

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June – Half term holiday

Thank you for your continued support throughout this academic year.



Charlotte Robinson

Headteacher