

14th October 2022

Dear Year 11 Parents and Carers,

Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support with your child's return to Ormiston Park Academy and to say personally, how impressed I have been these past few weeks with how the Year 11s have conducted themselves in lessons and the dedication they have shown to their studies so far.

Two important dates to put in your diary are:

- **Y11 Progress Evening 3:25 - 6pm. Thursday 3rd November**
 - **Heart Space**
 - **Refreshments available**
 - **100% attendance required**
- **Y11 Parent/Carer Information evening 6-7pm. Thursday 10th November**
 - **Main Theatre**
 - **Important presentation on supporting your child to get to the exams**
 - **Refreshments available**
 - **100% attendance required**

Additionally, Basildon Council have announced the following:

Your Future Careers Fair at **The Towngate Theatre**, Basildon **18th October** 3.30pm – 7.30pm

Basildon Council are delighted to invite all Year 10 – 13 students in the local area, plus parents/carers to the '**your future careers fair**'. The first two hours of the event will be allocated specifically for young people with additional needs.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet employers, colleges, universities and sixth forms, hear talks on apprenticeships and book a 1:1 session with a careers' advisor. Visitors are encouraged to book in advance. The Make Happen team are excited to support the event on the day and hope to meet you there!

Whilst I can confidently say that our Year 11s school journey has not been easy and they have faced multiple challenging circumstances both personally and globally, through those challenges they have shown true resilience and strength of character. Those qualities will most definitely help them now as they face what will most likely be their most challenging time at school in preparation for their GCSE and Vocational exams this year.

I am extremely happy with the feedback I have received from subject teachers since their return; this has been nothing short of outstanding. Many students are regularly attending after school

interventions provided by their teachers. This level of commitment will again, only serve to benefit them greatly in achieving their very best in their GCSE.

Although I have only been their Head of Year for six weeks I have seen numerous examples of these students performing at their best and demonstrating a highly commendable level of commitment to their studies and our wider school community through enrichment and student leadership roles. I personally have had the pleasure of sharing in their collective and individual successes and I am keen to watch them navigate the challenges of Year 11 and grow into strong, impactful role models for our younger pupils.

As parents and carers, I thank you again for your support with every aspect of your child's school day at OPA and ask that you remain vigilant as you always have been with our uniform, equipment, homework (now set on SIMs Engagement) and attendance expectations.

Our Year 11s truly are a credit to themselves, their families and our OPA community, I am extremely proud to be their Head of Year and we as a school cannot wait to see what wonderful things they will achieve in this year and beyond.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, please do feel free to email myself or any member of our team should you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing you and your Year 11s a lovely half term.

Faye Simpson.
Head of Year 11.

Year 11 Team:

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