

23 October 2024

Dear students and parents/carers

We've had a whirlwind start to the term and I cannot believe half term is upon us so quickly!

The College has enrolled a record number of students this year, and we are so impressed and proud of how quickly our new students are adjusting to college life and getting involved in college and community activities. I'd like to share with you some of the events and achievements of this term, as well as give you reminders as to what is coming up in the second half of term 1.

Reminders

- Parent/Carer evening - For all parents/carers of students under 18, we will hold meetings during the week of 4 November (East Surrey College students) and week of 11 November (John Ruskin College students) to feedback on students' progress so far this term. Students will also receive a 'Progress Review' in November which gives them a sense of how well they are doing on their study programme and some targets for continued improvement. A separate appointment will be arranged for those studying Maths and/or English.
- GCSE November resits - The resit dates are:
English language paper 1: Tuesday 5 November 2024
English language paper 2: Thursday 7 November 2024
Mathematics paper 1: Wednesday 6 November 2024
Mathematics paper 2: Friday 8 November 2024
Mathematics paper 3: Monday 11 November 2024

We expect all students to arrive at College between 9:00-9:30 am on their exam days.

- Parent Hub access - We have had some technical issues with the Parent Hub. We are working through these and will be relaunching the Hub in November.
- Attendance - We expect students to attend all their lessons every week. If they are unable to attend, they report their absence through either the 'OSC Connect' app or by contacting their curriculum administrator. Students whose attendance falls below 90% will miss learning and might not achieve the grades they are capable of. In addition, as much of vocational learning involves group and project activities, their classmates and teacher will miss their input. Students can see their attendance on the OSC Connect app and we encourage any student struggling with their attendance to speak to their Tutor or Progress Coach so we can support them. Where attendance is of concern, staff may use the 'Support and Intervention' procedure to discuss and resolve these issues. Where attendance is very poor with no explanation, we may withdraw the student and inform the local authority as this could constitute a serious safeguarding concern.

- Support and Intervention Procedure - Some students may have had a 'Cause for Concern' or a 'Stage 1' or 'Stage 2' meeting this term. These meetings are designed to identify and understand behaviours that do not meet College expectations, and to agree on actions and strategies to resolve these issues. The aim is to work with students to help them make the necessary improvements, and it is essential that students and their families understand when behaviour must change to maintain the student's place at the College.
For students under the age of 18, we will involve parents or carers in these discussions from Stage 1 onwards. We appreciate the support of parents and carers in helping to resolve these concerns. All meetings and agreed actions are recorded on the OSC Connect app, ensuring transparency and providing a means for follow-up.
For more information on the Support and Intervention Procedure, please see the following link: [OSC Student Support and intervention procedure for parents and carers](#)

College Events and Achievements This Term



Motorsports:

The team are off to a fantastic start in 24/25! The team took 3rd place overall in the Championship, alongside P2 in the PitStop Challenge. Attention now turns to Winter preparation, where our learners will engage with full inspection, preparation and maintenance of the car, ahead of the winter testing programme. The tutor, Lawrence, says 'A fantastic team, with dedicated learners & a driver who can make that thing dance. Thank you for trusting this project in my hands. This is only the beginning.'



Intergenerational Care Event:

We were fortunate to host the Intergenerational Event at JRC this term. This event involves a group of elders attending the College and having the opportunity to have treatments provided by the Hair, Beauty and Make-up teams and photographs taken by Art students. The students joined the elders for lunch and had the opportunity to develop their confidence, communication skills and practical skills.



Alumni Talk:

Our Computing students benefited from an Industry talk from one of our alumni. George is now a well-established IT professional working as a Cyber Security Risk Analyst for both BAE Systems and Rolls-Royce. Drawing from their extensive experience in the field, George provided a detailed picture of Cybersecurity changes within the aerospace and defence sectors. The talk also highlighted the importance of continuous learning and adaptability in the ever-changing world of IT, inspiring current learners to pursue careers in cybersecurity.



ESOL (English as a Second/Other Language):

The JRC ESOL Entry 2 students from Huseyin's and Edlir's class had a fantastic time exploring the Natural History Museum on 4 October. They were amazed by the dinosaur skeletons, fascinated by the animal exhibits, and learned a lot about the natural world.

However you spend the half term, I hope you can rest, connect, and spend time with family and friends.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rebecca Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Taylor
Vice Principal Curriculum & Standards