



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

BUCKINGHAM ROAD
WINSLOW
MK18 3GH
(01296) 711853

WEB: WWW.SIRTHOMASFREMANLLE.ORG

30th April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re Spring Update

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful Easter period with family and enjoyed some of the warmer weather.

I wanted to write to briefly update you on upcoming events within Sixth Form that are worthy of note and require your attention or support.

Sixth Form Exams – Monday 24th June – Friday 5th July:

There are no external AS exams this year, which means that we need to complete a rigorous internal examination process to ensure that we can give accurate grades to students. These grades (perhaps most importantly) capture the progress and hard work of the last year, but they are also used to inform the predictions that many students will be using for UCAS.

There is an expectation that students will undertake rigorous and extensive revision prior to these exams. I enclose a timetable of the exams for your reference, and students will be given guidance about revision strategies and time allocation for revision. The grades from the exams will be used to inform the predicted grades in UCAS applications, so their importance is significant. Please support your son/daughter in revising carefully for these exams. There will be an additional day for 'clashed' exams on 15th July, with the Art exam scheduled for 13th June.

Sixth Form Work Experience Week, Monday 8th –Friday 12th July:

The vast majority of students have now arranged placements and we now need to collect payment of the £25 fee: please make your payment via your child's ParentPay account as soon as possible.

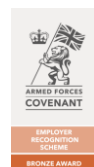
Students who have been unable to arrange a placement must be in school for the week – we will arrange appropriate independent study, either reviewing and improving notes, completing UCAS applications or preparing apprenticeship applications.

UCAS and University Applications:

The University and Colleges Admission System opens soon for students who wish to apply to university. The responsibility for the application lies with individual students, but they will use school as their referee and we will of course be providing additional support to all students.



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Students all have access to Unifrog, a tool which allows them to research and compare universities and apprenticeships and start building their application. We have arranged for some training from UCAS this Thursday (2nd May) and will provide an application guide for students to follow.

Please support your son/daughter in selecting universities and preparing their personal statement: UniFrog is an excellent tool for this purpose. I have written previously about my intention to offer an information evening on the 14th May if needed: if you would like to attend or are considering doing so, please contact louise.wetherall@sirthomasfremantle.org to register your interest.

Students need to register via UCAS themselves and then link their application to the school, though we will show them how to do this. Targeted support for applications will begin after half term, but please do encourage your child to research as much as possible and to visit some universities. They are welcome to use a maximum of three school days to attend open days (though many universities now do open days at the weekend).

We will be taking students to visit Reading University – please do encourage your child to go. UCAS applications must be submitted by the end of October, as this allows the school time to provide the necessary references, and check the application before sending it. I am enclosing a copy of the UCAS process guide for students that will be shared with them in the coming weeks.

Offsite passes

Students are now permitted to be offsite from 3.30pm on all days as the Wednesday lecture programme has concluded, however I would encourage students to remain on site to revise if at all possible.

Lunch passes will soon be issued to those students who have returned their completed permission forms. These new lunch passes will be valid from Monday 13th May. If you have not already done so and you wish your child to be allowed to leave the school site at lunchtimes, please either complete and return your form to reception, or indicate your permission to me by email (matthew.pike@sirthomasfremantle.org).

Summer Uniform

To acknowledge the warmer weather, we are amending Sixth Form uniform policy. Students can now attend in smart (logo free) polo shirts or short sleeved shirts. Ties will not need to be worn. Can I please reiterate that all other uniform must remain smart and appropriate for a work environment: bare shoulders, midriff and short skirts are still forbidden.

Parents Evening

This will take place on Tuesday 11th June. Please encourage your son/daughter to make appointments for you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Pike
Head of Sixth Form



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