

28 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Year 9

As the Easter Holiday approaches, we look forward to warmer days, lighter evenings and summer flowers blooming but it also provides us with a chance to pause and reflect of everything that has been achieved this term. Year 9 students have been recognised by their teachers 9,219 times for displaying the St Edward's virtues, which reward students not just for their academic ability but also for developing character which we hope will enable them to live full, positive and productive lives long after they leave St Edward's.

Year 9 students enter the summer term with so much to look forward to over the coming weeks. Students will shortly receive the confirmation of their GCSE choices in the post, it was great to see them take them take such responsibility in choosing their next steps early this term. Year 9 students will also get to experience a retreat in May, many students will head off to Kintbury, whilst others will visit a local church, to step back from their busy lives and take some time to pause and reflect. Something that is especially important as students get close to the end of Key Stage 3 and prepare for GCSE's and the next steps in their education. A large number of Year 9 students have also signed up to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, as well as completing their volunteering and skills sections over the coming weeks I am sure the students are also looking forward to getting out and on both their Practice Expedition and Qualifying Expedition later in the term where they can put their planning, navigation and cooking skills to the test.

As a school we are at our most successful when we work alongside yourselves in a partnership and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the school. Your support enables us to continue to have high standards of our students, with their uniform, hair, punctuality, behaviour in lessons and beyond. I thank you for your support in ensuring your child meets our standards. To help ensure students are able to maintain these high standards in the first week back, students will be reminded of the everyday expectations we have of them though assemblies led by our SLT.

May I leave you with my best wishes for Easter. I hope you have a safe, happy and healthy break and I look forward to seeing students on their return.

Yours faithfully,

Luke Kemish

**Key Stage 4** 

**Director of Learning** 

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