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13 January 2020

I apologise for the length of this letter – it contains important information.

Students who have missed Mock exams

We are running three further sessions after school on Monday 20 January, Tuesday 21 January and Wednesday 22 January after school to allow students to catch up. We will not be able to tell you predicted grades without mock exam information. If your child needs to complete exam papers on these days, we will text you to let you know this is so. This information, and an assigned day (s) will be posted on the sixth form study area noticeboard to confirm.

Year 13 Parents' Evening: Wednesday 12 February 2020

You are invited to our Year 13 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 12 February which will run from 3:45pm to 6:45pm. We expect all parents/carers to attend, as we will give you your child's Mock Exam results along with their predictions, and discuss ways in which you can support your child to achieve their true potential. Please bring your child with you.

Our online booking system can be accessed at <https://insight.thomastallis.org.uk> from 9.00 a.m. Monday 20 January until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday 12 February. There is a guide to booking appointments on this very webpage (found in the "General" menu). We wrote to you with your parent login at the start of this year. If you cannot access the system, please contact Ms. Courtney. Her email is ccourtney@thomastallis.org.uk. *Please also remember to print out or make a note of your appointments when you make them: INSIGHT does not send reminders or appointment lists.*

Please be advised that there is no parking onsite (except for disabled parking).

Attendance: crucial to success

Attendance should be 95%, or above. Last year every student who got ABB or better beat this figure. Your child's attendance is on your Insight parent homepage, as is your child's timetable. Assemblies happen every Tuesday at 3.05pm in the main hall. Tutorial takes place at 2.00pm every Wednesday Week A. Student Voice meetings take place at 8.30 a.m. every Monday Week B in the internet café.

Replying to UCAS offers – please support us in asking your child not to reply yet

If your child has all their offers, they may be being pressed to reply by universities. However, there is no advantage to your child in replying early. It is better to reply later when grade outcomes are more precisely known and after a 'reply strategy' has been checked with UCAS staff. Please ask your child to heed our advice.

Late UCAS applications

Are still possible. Please ask your child to speak with UCAS staff if they wish to apply. Students can apply to UCAS and still apply for an apprenticeship or Art College.

Apprenticeships and the World of Work

One-to-one meetings with our apprenticeship expert Maria Elia (melia@thomastallis.org.uk) begin this month and we will let your child know their date and time. Parents are welcome to come along if they would like.

Art College Applicants

Many deadlines for Art College fall at the end of January. Late applications are not possible. Mr Kiff is meeting with applicants every Thursday after school. Please ask your child to see him as necessary. He advises that students apply to at least three different colleges.

Tallis Graduation ceremony, Friday 3 July

We must end on a non-January note! Hence, another reminder that this joyous occasion takes place on Friday 3 July at 6.30p.m. Please book this in your diary now.

Many thanks for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Lumsden', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Fiona Lumsden
Head of Year 13