

## Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year. We hope that you had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the year ahead. We finished the year on a high with excellent examination results at both GCSE and A Level and have provided more information below.

### Standards of uniform and behaviour

Students have started the year with high standards of uniform clearly following the guidance on the school website. Can I remind parents/carers that students will be challenged if the uniform code is not adhered to and may be asked to wear items provided by the school. For health and safety reasons we have restricted the flow out on to the car park and now expect all students and visitors to enter and exit school via the main reception. We are monitoring the buses and will guide students as necessary. Please note bus services to and from school which are provided by Shropshire School run to a strict timetable and leave school promptly at 3.20pm. Students should leave lesson without delay in order to catch the bus. Should a student miss the bus they need to report to reception for contact home to be made. Students who come to school on bikes should wear cycle helmets and will be expected to walk with bikes whilst on site. Please advise your child to follow the Highway Code when coming to and from school. We have had a positive week and are confident, that in partnership with yourselves, students will meet the high expectations that we aspire to.

### Year 7 Colomendy Information Evening

For parents/carers of students attending Colomendy there will be a meeting on Thursday 13 September at 5pm in the School Hall. Students have been handed a letter with this information along with an Educational Visits form for completion and return on Monday.

### Founders' Day Sponsored Walk

The annual Key Stage 3 sponsored walk will take place on Wednesday 19 September at Lea Hall Farm, Ash courtesy of Mr and Mrs Taylor. All Year 7, 8 and 9 students are expected to take part and will be transported by coach. Funds raised will go towards school equipment for the students. Further information and a sponsor form will be handed to students on Monday.

## Mr O'Toole. Headteacher

### A Level Results

Students gained access to their first choice courses at top universities including Bristol, Liverpool and Portsmouth. This year's incredibly successful cohort are set to follow a wide range of degree programmes, including Medicine, Biomedicine, Architecture and Engineering. The majority of students will take up university places in September, with all students securing a quality pathway including the armed forces, nursing and policing. With an equally outstanding set of AS results in Year 12, this looks set to continue next year.

Congratulations to all our students who will now embark on the next stage of their journeys. From all of us here at Sir John Talbot's School, we would like to wish you the very best of luck.



### GCSE Results

A week after receiving incredible A Level results, Sir John Talbot's School celebrated impressive GCSE results. Core subjects of English, Maths and Science gained 100% pass grades with 70% of all grades being at Grade 4 and above. Subject specialists have seen incredible achievements with 20% of grades in English and 15% in Maths at Grade 7 to 9.

A number of younger students took part in this year's GCSEs with two-thirds of our Year 10 students obtaining grades 4-9 in English Literature. In addition, Year 9 students took part in their Languages GCSE achieving top marks, which sets them well on the road to stating their other GCSE subjects in September.



## RYLA Programme

Sixth Form students Chloe-Anne, Jessica and Shola attended a week-long Rotary Youth Leadership Award Programme held near Stone in Staffordshire.

Each candidate was given opportunities for in-depth development of enhanced leadership and team building skills.

The programme promises that all RYLA graduates will return home having benefited to face their individual career choices and challenges. Good luck girls and thank you to volunteer Rotarians Ian and Sue.



## Gold Duke of Edinburgh

Year 12 Gold Duke of Edinburgh students successfully completed their Gold Expedition at the start of the summer holidays.

The group of four students; Shola Bailey, Tamisa Bailey, Ben Fry and Nadine Burke walked around 50 miles over 4 days and showed excellent levels of team work and navigation.



## Year 12 NCS

On their first day on Tuesday, our new Year 12 students participated in an NCS challenge where they were required to work in teams to think of the best business idea.

They divided into sub-teams to think of the best way of launching their business and it was a successful and enjoyable day. Well done to you all.



## SJT Lion on display

During summer flowers were planted at the junction of Tilstock Road in the shape of Sir John Talbot's Lion logo. It looks fantastic and we would like to thank Mr Dodd and his team.



## Universal Credit

The local authority has asked us to pass on this information in regards to Universal Credit.

**Claiming Universal Credit or just about to make a claim?**  
Need help to manage online?  
Universal Credit is an online benefit which means you need to claim online and tell the jobcentre about any changes online. You might also need to print information to support your claim and check regularly for messages and letters that you need to reply to.

**Worried about managing your money?**  
Will you be able to manage with your monthly Universal Credit payment, how about keeping up with the bills and having to pay the rent yourself from your money?  
**Please** - don't leave it until it's too late, if you need help to manage your money call us on 0345 678 9078 and ask about personal budgeting support.

**Shropshire can UC?**  
Working age? Then you need to know about Universal Credit, it's coming in 2018.  
Starting in 2018 anyone having to make a new claim for Income Support or the income based Jobseeker's or Employment and Support Allowance, Housing Benefit or Tax Credits may need to claim Universal Credit (UC). You should still claim any contribution based benefits.

**Have your rent agreement with you when you go to your new claim interview. If you don't, your money won't include help with rent.**  
If you rent from a Housing Association talk to them first as they will help you to get ready for Universal Credit. Make rent a priority - set a budget, get your rent money on one side. Can you pay a bit of extra rent NOW to give you a buffer? Can you get a regular access to the rent from your account? Rent a Credit Union.  
Can help to get in arrears - talk to your landlord, can you come to some agreement? Call help with rent from Citizen's Advice or by calling the National Debt Helpline 0800 599 599.  
Jobcentre Plus might help you get an advance of benefit when you claim and pay it back from benefits later. Don't forget to pay your rent from it. They might be able to pay your landlord directly as temporary help.  
Can you get a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)? DHP's can't help everyone but if you don't get DHP will you get your rent then you qualify. Stopgap Council. Call who you.  
Call 0345 678 9078.  
If you want to know more about Universal Credit look on the information on the money advice website at: <https://www.moneyadvicewebsite.org.uk/what-is-universal-credit-an-introduction> or you could phone the financial helpline on credit on 0800 600 600.  
Your library has computers and they have a lot of other places to get online.

**Keep your tenancy safe, follow these hints and tips**  
If this was useful - pass it on!

## Reminders

**Term Dates 2018 – 2019**

**Autumn Term 2018**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December

Half term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

**PD Day: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

**Spring Term 2019**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Half term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

**PD Days: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

**Summer Term 2019**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Half term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**PD Day: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Term dates for the academic year 2019 – 2020 can be found online [here](#).