

15 January 2019

Dear Year 9 Parents

Welcome to the Spring Term

Welcome to the Spring term; I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break and I am sure the Year 9 students are ready and raring to go as they enter the half way point of their time here at The Henry Beaufort School. I appreciate this can be quite a scary prospect however this half term especially can be crucial for ensuring that the rest of their time here and into further education can go as smoothly as possible.

My aim for this term is to ensure that the students are fully equipped with the knowledge they need to pick the right options for them and also give them the tools in which to succeed in the future. The first part of this is the Personal Development Day which includes the Real Game and Straw Poll 2 on Wednesday 16th January. During this day students will get the chance to think again about their options and it is a day where they get a small taste of what adult life can consist of. They do this by being given a job which comes with a set salary/hours and then they must ensure that they budget accordingly to live their dream life. We will coincide this with the website fasttomato.com which is a really good careers website.

Then we move onto Progress Evening on the 24rd January; this is an opportunity for both students and yourselves to talk in detail to the subject teachers about the complexities of the GCSE courses moving forward into Year 10 and 11. As well as getting their advice on what pathway within a certain subject could be good for your child. Miss Shelton will be presenting twice on the evening about how the curriculum is split up in Year 10 and 11 and will also give more detail about which subjects could best meet the needs of your child. The students then have 10 days in which to finalise and hand in their final options form, due by 4th February.

Within tutor times we will start to look at colleges locally and what is available to the students over the next couple of years. One of my areas of focus this year is to convince the students that they now need to consider the school day as a 6 period day. I will be heavily promoting this by suggesting that student's access Home Learning Club and Clinics to do Home Learning in school. As this will help to develop the skills that they will need in their forthcoming GCSEs and students who have done this in the past are the students that get the best GCSE outcomes.

If you have questions on what I have said in this letter or anything else then please get in contact with me matthew.coe@staff.beaufort.hants.sch.uk

Yours sincerely
Mr M Coe
Head of Year 9