



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 13 – Half Term Update

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the last half term, to let you know how pleased we are with the start that Year 13 have made to this academic year, particularly in light of the current challenges they face, as well as flagging up some key dates.

Year 13 sat their prelims in September with the students applying themselves seriously to these exams. Those who were 2 or more grades below their ALPS target grade will be re-sitting exam/s on **Monday 16 November**. There will be a further set of prelims in January for all Year 13 students and more details will follow regarding these nearer the time.

Last half term, many Year 13 students were busy writing their personal statements for university, and the school sent off 25 early applications for Oxbridge and Medicine hopefuls.

The school's deadline for UCAS applications is **Friday 4 December 2020**, and the deadline set by UCAS is 15 January 2021. However, please note that we need a minimum of a week to check a student's application form before submitting it to UCAS. For students who do not wish to apply to university, they will be offered a bespoke careers interview with Adviza, which will be arranged from 15 January 2021 onwards.

Tuesday, 8 December 2020 is Year 13 Progress Evening, which will be carried out virtually, and you will receive a letter shortly about how to log on. The school has now run one virtual progress evening and the feedback was very positive from parents. The importance of this meeting cannot be over stated, as it will allow you to understand in more detail your son/daughter's current level of progress, and what they need to do in order to improve, as well as offering you more ways to support them.

Attendance last half term for the year group was strong, especially in light of Covid-19. However, we are still concerned by the number of 'broken week' absences, where students miss one or two days every couple of weeks. All of the academic research on attendance shows this is the most serious type of absence, with many students failing to catch up with work, so please may I ask for your support in ensuring absences are kept to an absolute minimum.

Whilst things are very different currently, I would also ask for your support in ensuring that in the lead up to Christmas, if your son/daughter has a part time job, they do not exceed 10 hours a week. Experience has taught us that exceeding this causes the students studies to suffer.

To conclude, a reminder that the Sixth Form dress code is a **plain black, blue or grey suit and black/brown shoes (no trainers or hoodies)**.

Thank you for your support and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Miss A Cheshire
KS5 Assistant Headteacher