

Dear Parents.

It has been lovely to welcome the students back after an extended Easter break. With the sun making a brief appearance, the grounds are looking fantastic, and we are looking forward to Sports day at the end of this half term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steve Fry and Leigh Jennings and the wider grounds team for their continued work on the sports pitches, it is much appreciated.

I have detailed out below some key information which will help your son to be best prepared in sport this summer.

Topics in Sports

Years 4/5/6 – Students will take part in cricket, athletics, and swimming. Please could I ask that the boys have their swimming **and** athletics clothes in school for **all PE lessons.**

Years 7-10 – Students will do 1 hour of athletics each week in the first half term and 1 hour of a sport chosen by them. (Cricket, Softball, Swimming or Pickleball. After half term, Year 7 and 8 students will swap athletics for softball cricket / striking and fielding skills. Year 9 and 10 students will have the option to change athletics for another chosen sport.

Years 11-13 – Students will have four, weekly options from which to choose their 2-hour lesson: - cricket, softball, swimming, tennis, baseball, athletics, water polo, ultimate frisbee, Danish longball, badminton, table tennis, and strength and conditioning.

Within each of their sporting activities, students will work on fitness, skill development, game play, collaboration, and teamwork.

Sports Day - Friday 24th May 2024

On the final Friday before half term, we will have our annual Sports day for Years 4-10.

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Boys will be required in school all day as normal but should come to school wearing their l PE kit. Parents are warmly invited to come and support the day and further communication will be sent out over the next few weeks with exact timings and requirements.

Fixtures List

Teams are selected on both their ability and commitment in lessons. Our wish is to get as many boys representing the school as possible so, over the term, we might add additional fixtures to the programme to allow this to happen. We will always communicate team selection through team sheets which will be emailed to you the Friday before the match. You just need to complete the attached form, giving permission for your son to play and making us aware that you have seen the relevant pick-up time and arrangements.

Extra-Curricular activities: Before /After school and lunchtime

The sports provision extends at either end of the normal day with; 1) strength and conditioning sessions three times a week (Mon, Wed, Fri) from 7.30am and 2) a multitude of after school activities from Monday to Thursday. Please visit the parent portal to sign your son up for any of these activities.

House Events

This term, we will have many house events which are highlighted below. Not all house events are compulsory this term so please refer to the list. Sports Day, however, is a compulsory event for all pupils from Year 4-10.

Wednesday 15th May – U13 House Swimming Gala – Optional

Friday 24th May – Sports Day – Compulsory Years 4-10

Tuesday 4th June – U12 House Swimming Gala – Optional

Monday 10th June - U14 House Biathlon - Optional

Friday 14th June – U12 House Biathlon – Optional

Tuesday 18th June – U15 House Biathlon – Optional

Friday 21st June – Year 4/5/6 House Swimming Gala – Compulsory

Wednesday 10th July - U13 House Biathlon - Optional

Optional events – boys will get the opportunity to take part in the event if they wish and can sign up in the weeks leading up to the event.

Compulsory – All boys in the year group (s) will take part.

Lunchtime Cricket Workshops

These are drop-in sessions where players can come and work on their skills, either through net sessions or small group sessions. They will take place in the sports hall from 12.20pm – 12.55pm

Year 4/5/6 - Tuesdays

Year 7 - Mondays

Year 8 - Thursdays

Year 9 -11 have an afterschool session on the club's rota.

Lost property and Sports kit.

Please could you ensure that your son has the correct PE kit for his lessons, including his swimming kit if required, and that everything is named. If your son is selected to play in the cricket team, we play in coloured clothing like the county leagues so your son will need to bring his tracksuit trousers and we will provide him with a coloured top to wear. Boys may also bring their own equipment from home although the school will supply a team bag, containing all the required kit for each game. Boys in the hard ball cricket group will benefit from having batting undershorts so they can wear a cricket box in matches or training.

Student participation and off games.

All students are expected to take part in sports lessons. If your son is unable to because of injury or illness we ask that you inform the Form teacher on the morning of his lessons. We will then expect him back on sport the following week. If they are to be excused for a longer period, please contact the sports department directly so we can put a plan in place to utilise your son's time effectively during this off-sport period.

I am looking forward to the term ahead and hope to see many of you at the side of a cricket pitch or at Sports Day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Procter Director of Sport