



December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this term draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to firstly, thank you for your continued support as we drive forward standards and secondly, to update you on actions, outcomes and future dates this term.

Ofsted monitoring visit

On 22nd and 23rd November, we had a monitoring visit by five Ofsted inspectors. They undertook 'deep dives' in specific curriculum areas, met with students, looked closely at SEN provision, alternative provision and safeguarding procedures. They focussed on improvements since their last visit at the end of May 2022.

At this stage, judgements would not be changed, they were here to ensure rapid progress is being made. We are awaiting their report which we should receive just after the Christmas break and will of course share with you.

Uniform

This term, in our drive to improve standards, we have been focusing on uniform and we appreciate that at times this has been difficult.

We are very proud of the students who continue to wear full school uniform. We will continue with this drive and expect all our students to be in full uniform. Should you be having any difficulty, please contact your child's Pastoral Mentor or Head of Year.

Attendance

Attending school regularly is vital. Students who miss school have, on the whole, achieved a grade less than those who attend school regularly.

Heads of Year and Pastoral Mentors continue to monitor student's attendance and action is taken against those who do not attend. We please ask for your support in ensuring your child attends regularly and promptly.

Staff changes

At the end of this term we say a fond farewell to a couple members of staff:

Miss Hubball

Miss Hubball joined us in 2016 as part of the catering team, moving to the role of Learning Support Assistant where she has been an invaluable support to a number of students. We wish her every success in her new role. Being an ex-student of Castle Rock, we are especially proud of her achievements and although we will miss her tremendously, we know she will be hugely successful in her new role.

Mr Payne

Mr Payne joined Castle Rock High School in August 1991.

He has seen many changes over the years, moving to a new school site in 2006 and then merging with King Edward VII in 2020.

Throughout his many years, Mr Payne has been calm, reflective and kind. He has taught thousands of students to speak French with confidence.

As he retires from teaching, we thank him for devoting his career to us and wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement

Diary dates

Wednesday 7 th – Saturday 10 th December	-	The Castle Rock School Panto
Tuesday 13 th December	-	Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day
Thursday 15 th December	-	Sixth Form Awards Evening
Friday 16 th December	-	Last day of term

On Friday 16th we will be finishing at the slightly earlier time of **12.30pm**, buses have been arranged for this time. Could we please ask that should you be collecting your child, you arrange, if possible, to meet them away from the bus park to avoid congestion. Those students on free school meals can collect a 'grab-bag' at break time.

From all of us here at The Castle Rock School, we wish you a happy and restful Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming the students back on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

With my very best wishes



Mr A Grainge
Associate Principal