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25 September 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a good summer and that you feel we have started the new academic year well. We think that our young people have settled in nicely, and are making a flying start.

We have some new teachers who we are glad to welcome:

Business/ICT	Ms McKenny
Design Technology	Mr Mcdowall
Economics	Mr Truppia
English	Ms Ilpide
Humanities	Ms Evans, Mr Rahman, Ms Reading
Maths	Mr Cayless, Ms Dark, Mr Pape, Ms Shahid
MFL	Ms Bolognesi
Music	Mrs Gould
PE	Ms Moore, Mr Muirhead
Science	Mr Messam, Ms Tomlinson, Ms Rupra

Our A level results were wonderful this year, the best ever. 25% A or A*, 53% A*- B, 80% A*- C, with a 99% pass rate.

GCSE results were more disappointing, where we suffered from some of the national changes being described as 'volatility'. We are working hard to understand what we need to do differently, and have every confidence in this year's Year 11s that they will do their best and achieve what they need to take the next step in life. As ever, there were some magnificent individual results:

Bea Dyer 5A*s, 4As and 2Bs

Kim Hoang 6A*s, 2 Distinction* and 3As

Alisa Kyrpo 2A*s, 4 Distinction*, 6As, 1 Distinction and 1B

Branwen Onono 6A*s, 3As and 1B

Joe Powley 4A*s, 5As and 2Bs

Kaisun Raj 8A*s, 2As and 1B

Ben Tu 8A*s, 2As and 1 Distinction

Hawre Ali 4As, 1 Distinction and 5Bs

Monique Day 2A*s, 4 Distinction*, 3Bs and 3Cs

Emily James 1A*, 5As, 1B and 4Cs

Olivier Laben 1A*, 8 Distinction*, 2As, 4 Bs and 1 Merit

We are trying to enforce our uniform simply this year with some very clear rules. Those of you who are experienced Tallis parents will recall that I wrote to you on 27 June 2014 and 8 July 2014 about this. In particular, we will not allow our girls to wear skin-tight trousers or leggings, or very short skirts. If a skirt is not knee length, then it MUST be worn with thick tights – 50 denier or thicker. Jeans or trousers with studs are not allowed for boys or girls. We have three solutions for young people who come to school incorrectly dressed: we will ask parents to bring correct clothes into school at once, or we will agree with parents that local children will be sent home to change, or they will have to change into some of the new, laundered, spare uniform we have in school. There are no further options. If we have to send a child home to change that will count as an absence until he or she returns.

This letter is shorter than usual because we have started to publish a weekly newsletter on the website, as you might have seen. I hope that you will keep up with that: it is easy to find, on the front page. We will put lots of useful information in there as well as news, reminders and celebrations. Please read it regularly: it is published every Friday lunchtime.

I enclose as ever some dates for your diary which you will also find in our weekly newsletters.

May I wish us all a happy autumn!

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Roberts
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Parent Evenings 3.30pm to 6.30pm

Year 10	Wednesday 3 December 2014
Year 13	Wednesday 10 December 2014
Year 11	Wednesday 21 January 2015
Year 12	Wednesday 11 February 2015
Year 8	Wednesday 4 March 2015
Year 9	Wednesday 22 April 2015
Year 7	Wednesday 6 May 2015

Parent Forums with the Headteacher – 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the Main Hall

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Monday 6 October 2014	Tuesday 3 February 2015	Monday 11 May 2015
Tuesday 25 November 2014	Monday 16 March 2015	Monday 22 June 2015