

11/2/19

Dear All,

As we reach the mid-point of this academic year, I thought it would be a good idea to update you on life in Fraser Youens House. For many of our boarders, the academic challenges this year are rapidly approaching. Year 11, 12 and 13 will have recently received their mock exam results and Years 7, 8 and 10 will shortly be receiving their latest set of progress grades. I hope that your son has done well and will be able to reflect on his latest grades. Our Boarding Tutors will have met or shortly be meeting your son to discuss the latest grades and to help support your son to set targets to ensure that he can achieve his considerable potential, whatever that may be.

We have reached a pivotal period of the year for boys in Years 11 and 13 as they prepare for their public exams which begin in May. Teaching time is absolutely crucial at this stage since there are only six weeks of teaching prior to the Easter break and study leave will start for Year 11 in early May, less than three weeks after the Easter holidays.



‘Guess which boarder had never seen snow before? The clue is the size of his snowball!’

Almost the entire house were present when we had our first ‘Snow Day’ of the academic year. It was simply amazing and I have to commend the boys and staff for such a fun filled day. Making special memories is one of the unique things that boarding can offer. Boarders also helped clear the drive of snow which allowed parents and staff in and out of the site to ensure that weekly boarders could get home.



A mass Snowball fight



‘Running the gauntlet’

The Year 7 Boarders won the Christmas term merits competition and it looks like a close run competition between Years 7&8 and 10 this half term. This half term the House Football competition was won by Team Flynn. Next half term will be the keenly awaited House Dodgeball.

As our Year 13s turn their focus on university and final exams we have begun the process of electing new House Prefects. All of the Year 12 students will have the opportunity to apply and the entire boarding house, students and staff will get to vote on who they think would make good prefects. I would like to thank the current Year 13s for their overwhelming support and help in ensuring Fraser Youens is a fantastic place to live. Year 12 boarders will take up the House Prefect roles after the Easter holidays.

Many of our boarders are participating in school fixtures with some of the winter sports hockey, rugby, fives and cross country and of course lots of boarders continue to be involved in the fantastic music that RGS offers. A number of boarders are involved in the upcoming musical 'West Side Story' which I would urge you all to see next half term. RGS House Music takes place this week and it will be great to see a number of boarders involved, especially those in my house, Balmoral. The Winter ladders are also drawing to a close and we will see the top four boys play off at Pool, Table Tennis, Jenga and table football this week.

We love being able to praise boarders for their actions in boarding, at school and at home. The following boys have won 'Boarder of the week' since the start of the academic year; Sufyaan, Xavier, James E, Theo D, Raymond, Hugo, Ayo, Oli, Cyril, Leo, Josh, Lukas, Bjorn, Gareth, Charlie W and Will. These boarders have all won the award for a variety of reasons including; academic success, improvement in effort, charity fund raising, speeches, art, sport and music to name a few. Please encourage your son to pass on their good news to the boarding staff in order that we can all share success. 'Boarders of the week' get to choose a meal which is often looked forward to by the rest of the house. The most popular meal this year appears to be Southern Fried Chicken!

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a fantastic half term and I know that several of the boarders will have an amazing time on the RGS ski trips to both USA and Italy.

Please be aware of the following upcoming holiday and exeat dates;

Thursday February 14th, School closes for half term at 3.40pm, Fraser Youens closes 7.00pm.

Sunday February 24th, FYH reopens 7.00pm - School resumes Monday 25th February.

Friday 15th March, Exeat FYH closes at 7.00pm, reopens on Sunday 17th March at 7.00pm.

Friday April 5th School closes for the end of term - 1.00pm, Fraser Youens closes 6.00pm.

Monday April 22nd, Fraser Youens reopens 7.00pm - School resumes Tuesday April 23rd.

Yours sincerely

J I Scourfield (Assistant Head/Director of Boarding)