

22nd May 2022

Dear Parents and Boarders,

I cannot believe that we are almost into the final half term of the academic year. I wanted to update you on the summer term in Fraser Youens. The first thing is that it has been fantastic to near normality. If you saw my email we are warmly inviting parents back into the house. Please do ask to go up and see you son's dorms on a Friday at pick up, or on a Sunday evening and especially at the end of this half term. We want to wish all the boarders the best of luck for GCSE, A level, UCAS and end of year exams. Year 11 are well into the GCSE period and our first A level exams for almost three years started this week.



Softball with a difference including the odd water balloon & recent house trips, Paintballing and Go Karting.

We have tried our very best to continue with as many activities as possible over the past two years and we know that our Boarders have loved the last few trips (Paintballing, Go Karting and whole House Activities, such as our Softball (with a difference). The one area Boarders did to a degree miss out on over the past two years was the ability to run some of our whole house activities as we had to reduce the risk of anyone 'superspreading' across the whole boarding environment. It is brilliant to see the return of whole House debates and whole house Sports tournaments.

I attach a link that I have already sent out for our annual survey and I would like to thank those who have already completed the survey. [Parental Survey 2022](#). It is important that we get the views of all stakeholders, the boarders themselves completed a survey earlier in the year, our Year 13 Leavers have just completed a survey which was incredibly positive about their experience. Of our thirteen leavers, eleven rated their experience of RGS boarding 5/5 and the other two Boarders, 4/5. We are rightly proud of the young men who attend RGS and reside in Fraser Youens and I hope that those who are leaving RGS and boarding will look back fondly at their time and will stay in touch as Old Boys.



Brilliant to have a 'normal' Leavers Day and Leavers Meal.

In terms of moving on it would be hugely remiss if I didn't say a huge thank you for the work done by our Year 13 Prefects who have really set the tone for the entire house. We have now appointed the new Prefects and a special *Ofsted Boarding Inspection 2019 'Outstanding'*

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mention should go to Alex, Will and Sammy who were appointed as Senior Boarding Prefects alongside some outstanding other young men. At this stage of the year it would also be a good time to thank all of the boarders who have been involved in a Mentoring programme. Many of the students who have mentored younger students are in Year 11 and Year 13 and a big thank you so much for all your support and hard work in supporting your fellow boarders.

For Years 7-10, school exam week starts on Monday 6th June, predominantly it is language exams until the exams start properly on Friday June 10th. Copies of exam timetables have been posted in the boarding house and all students should have their own copy to help plan revision carefully. I would hope that all of the boarders will spend some time revising over the half term break. Mrs Gallagher has met with all year groups and offered exam revision guidance.

As well as school exams we will want the boarders to have a relaxing and enjoyable last half term. Boarding should never just be an extension of school. There is a planned trip to Liquid Leisure (details to follow) next half term, alongside our weekly and normal end of term activities. This will include the annual pub walk and BBQ. I have no doubt we will also have the odd water balloon extravaganza over the coming weeks. In terms of reward evenings, Year 7 won last half term's Merit Evening and will be ten pin bowling on Thursday of this week, this half term is close between Year 7,8, 9 as we reach the final week of merits.

I will remind you nearer the time but the end to this academic year has changed with RGS taking the Jubilee holiday on Friday 15th July. This does mean finishing on Thursday July 14th with a normal school day. As a result all our boarders have been offered special dispensation in order to effectively close down Fraser Youens and clear all dorms effectively. Your son may be collected at any point throughout Thursday 14th July from 1100 onwards. The house will need to be closed by 6.00pm and weekly boarders cannot leave behind any belongings over the summer holidays.

Finally, I wish everyone a great half term holiday and below are some key dates for you all in the coming weeks;
Friday May 27th School finishes 3.00pm - Fraser Youens House closes 7.00pm.

Sunday June 5th Fraser Youens House re-opens 7.00pm - Monday June 6th School starts.

Mon June 6th to Fri June 17th School Exams week Yrs 7-10. (Most exams take place from Fri 10th June onwards)

Weds June 8th to Fri June 17th Yr 12 UCAS exams.

Thurs July 14th last day of term. School finishes 3.30pm. Boarders are free to be collected at any point from 1100 during the day. The House needs to be closed by 6.00pm.

Yours sincerely

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