Welcome to all new pupils and their parents, especially those in **Year 7**, who have settled in quickly during their first week at secondary school. We hope that all pupils enjoyed their summer break, and have returned refreshed and ready for learning with a positive mindset. Our first Learning Conferences this term are for Year 7 pupils and parents and take place next Thursday 14 September (P1 for pupils and at 6.30pm in the Main Hall for parents); there is a copy of the letter on the Letters page of our website www.deerparkschool.net. We have also published a Welcome Back **message from Headteacher, Ms Henson**, with updates on the school build and artificial pitches, links to Miss Lillington's blog as she travels around the world on her sabbatical, and much more. Read more...

On Monday there will be a photographer in school taking new shots for our website. Please check that your child adheres to our uniform policy. We obviously want to avoid having to discard great shots due to incorrect uniform, nail polish, inappropriate jewellery etc. Thank you for your help!

Parents are reminded that we have revised our Uniform Dos and Don'ts and, following more than 12 months' notice, **the pencil skirt is no longer an acceptable item of school clothing**. All girls, across all year groups, now have the option of either the black stitch down pleat skirt or the black kick pleat skirt available from D&J Sports or Trutex Direct. Alternatively, girls can wear one of the two prescribed trouser styles. Furthermore, owing to the plethora of designs, colours and bold logos, **hoodies are no longer acceptable in school**. Pupils are reminded that they should wear their navy blue school jumper over their school shirt in cooler weather and a plain outside coat. We are grateful to parents for your co-operation in this as it will help us focus our conversations more on

learning and less on uniform transgressions.

Earlier this week there were some issues accessing **Show My Homework**, our online homework system, but these are now all resolved. Parents of pupils in Year 7 should receive a letter today, via their child, with their individual SMHW login, which will allow you as a parent to keep track of your child's homework. The system allows parents to monitor their child's homework progress and know their deadlines. Any relevant resources will be attached to the piece of homework and there is clear signposting of deadlines and expectations. Show My Homework can always be accessed via our website www.deerparkschool.net (Quick Links icons top right) or you can download an app for your mobile devices. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Lang.

As part of our **Expressive Arts Faculty in Focus** this month, pupils have been invited to perform in an Expressive Arts Open Showcase which will take place during lunchtimes next Thursday and Friday. We welcome musicians, singers, dancers, actors, gymnasts, stand-up comedians and anything else pupils would like to perform to a small audience. Each act will be given 10 tickets to give to their chosen audience members, so this is perfect for anyone still building confidence! Places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. The sign up sheet is in the Expressive Arts Office. If pupils have any questions, they should come and talk to a member of the Expressive Arts staff. We look forward to seeing our talented pupils perform!

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective pupils and their parents to our two **Open Mornings and Open Evening** later this month. Please do come along if you have primary age children who are interested in Deer Park and spread the word about the dates: Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 September (9.15-11.15am) and Wednesday 27 September (6.30-8.30pm).

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

MON 11 Photographer in School
TUE 12 GCSE Textiles Trip, Bath
THU 14 Year 7 Learning Conference, P1
THU 14 Year 7 Parents' Learning Conference, 6.30pm
SAT 16 Year 10 DofE Expedition
SUN 17 Year 10 DofE Expedition
MON 18 Open Morning, 9.15-11.15am
TUE 19 Open Morning, 9.15-11.15am
MON 25 Year 11 Post 16 Information Evening, 6.30pm
TUE 26 Spanish Exchange to Cadiz
WED 27 Open Evening, 6.30-8.30pm

OCTOBER
TUE 3 Spanish Exchange return
WED 4 Year 9 Learning Conference, P1
WED 4 Year 9 Parents' Learning Conference, 6.30pm
TUE 10 Years 8-11 Careers Conference
WED 18 Year 8 Learning Conference, P1
WED 18 Year 8 Parents' Learning Conference, 6.30pm
MON 23 Half Term
MON 30 Return to School (Week 1)

Letters

YEAR 7
Learning Conference
Show My Homework

YEAR 8
No letters

YEAR 9
No letters

YEAR 10
DofE Bronze Award (some pupils)

YEAR 11
Post 16 Information Evening

www.deerparkschool.net

Term Dates 2017-2018

Other News

Assistant Exams Officer Vacancy: We are seeking to appoint a part time Assistant Exams Officer to work alongside our Exams Officer and team of Exam Invigilators, to ensure the smooth running of all examinations within the School. Application deadline is no later than 9am on Friday 15 September. Find out more...

Year 7 WisePay Login: A letter was posted to new Year 7 parents on Tuesday 29 August giving details of WisePay logins and passwords, to enable parents to put money onto their child's lunch card, and pay for future trips and visits, Enrichment Week, music lessons etc. Go to WisePay. We are aware that some letters were significantly delayed in the postal system, but if you have not received your letter, please email Allison Boucher, Head's PA who will arrange for you to receive a duplicate copy. If you have any general queries regarding WisePay, please email wisepay@deerparkschool.net

Year 10 GCSE Business Studies: To support their learning, pupils can purchase an e-textbook, developed by the exam board, which can be used on up to three devices at home, e.g. home PC, tablet and mobile phone. The resource costs £8.80 and the licence lasts for 2 years, which will take pupils beyond their final GCSE exam in June 2019; the cost equates to just 11p per school week. Payment can be made via WisePay. There is a copy of the letter on the Letters page of our website.

Extra Curricular PE: Our initial timetable for extra curricular PE is as follows
Monday lunchtime - Year 7/8 Rugby; Year 7 Netball
Tuesday after school - Year 10/11 Netball; Year 9/10/11 Rugby
Wednesday after school - All Years Badminton
Thursday after school - Year 7/8 Rugby; Year 7/8/9 Netball
Friday lunchtime - Key Stage 3 Cross Country; Year 7/8 Talent ID

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