

2 May 2017

Dear Parents

Congratulations to:

- Daisy Price (7C) and Helena Kurczewska (7S) who have achieved their **Platinum Merit Awards** for gaining 100 merits this year.
- Kofi Appiah (7S) who has achieved his **Silver Merit Award**.

As you will be aware we are now in the examination season. For **parents of Y11 and Y13** students I have attached information sheets regarding external examinations. Hard copies will also be distributed to students at their exam briefing next Tuesday. May I take this opportunity to emphasise that it is important to telephone school if your son/daughter is too ill to attend a public examination (GCSE or A level) and ask to speak to me. However, it is better to try and sit the examination; if a student is unwell, this will be taken into account. A generic copy of the Y11 and Y13 exam timetable is also attached. Please note both GCSE and A Level (GCE) information is included on this but parents and pupils will be able to access individual timetables via the intranet.

You may have read in the national news about a worrying new App called '**Blue Whale**', originating in Russia, which encourages self-harm with eventual suicide after 50 days. In it, individuals are given tasks by an anonymous 'master' with the tasks becoming increasingly dangerous – typically they seem to start with self-harming and watching a scary film. The name of the game is a reference to the way some blue whales beach themselves on purpose and die.

Also, it has recently been brought to our attention that some students are using the App, **Yellow**, which is seen as Tinder for teenagers and encourages sexting – the sending of nude photos. We are worried about it on many levels, including the prospect of adults pretending to be teenagers on this App and the potential dangers this could pose. Social media has its benefits but it is important that students keep their profiles private and only add people to any social media site that they actually know in person.

I encourage you to keep an eye on what your son/daughter is doing online and take the opportunity of talking to them about the dangers of social media sites.



Congratulations to the pupils (pictured left) who have attained their **Platinum Merit Awards**.

At last Friday's achievements assembly, the **Senior School Prefects** were appointed:

Emily Bell (12S) – Anti-bullying

Ethan Black (12C) – STEM

Kym Broughton (12C) – STEM

Katrina Garcia-Evans – Creative Arts

Rebekka Garton (12S) – Community

Peter George (12T) – Sport

Chloe Goddard (12C) – Community

Olivia Hockenhull (12S) – Anti-bullying

Cameron Foster (12C) – Sport

Christie-Anne Freeman (12C) – Creative Arts

Jensen Jones (12S) – STEM

Annalise Limage (12T) – Enterprise

Willow Mickel (12C) – Anti-bullying

Naomi Moran (12S) – Anti-bullying

James Myers (12T) – Enterprise

Nathan Pocock (12C) – Creative Arts

Liam Riggall (12C) – STEM

Sam Rowan (12S) – STEM

Brook Salter (12S) – STEM

Katarina Sanislova (12T) – Creative Arts

Molly Scaman (12T) – Creative Arts

Rebecca Smith (12C) – Enterprise

Jack Stephenson (12S) – Sport

Ben Stevenson (12T) – Environment

Isaac Stevenson (12T) – Enterprise

Scott Taylor (12S) – Environment & Anti-bullying

Jessica White (12T) – Social Media

I look forward to working with them and thank them for their willingness to contribute to the further development of the school.

Best wishes



Miss A Francis
Headteacher

