22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

## **Dear Parents & Carers**

I wanted to talk a little bit about activities week, work experience and Warlstock 2. Last week we took 154 students and 17 staff to Year 7 camp in the Mendips in Somerset, 173 students and 18 staff to Paris in Year 8 and 99 students and 11 staff went to PGL in Shropshire from Year 9.

We also made two trips, with 40 students from Year 7 to the Science Museum and two trips of 33 Year 8 students, to the Natural History Museum as well of lots of other activities throughout the week for students not on residential trips.

On top of that, last week there are also over 230 students who engaged in a week of work experience in Year 10, which is a huge task to organise and like my own son's school, many schools don't take part in arranging this experience anymore and might just complete one day of work experience.

This couldn't happen without your support and the hard work of staff organising placements. In addition to this we also had 150, Year 12 students out on work experience last week. It's great to be able to acknowledge the impact that that will have on these students and it is testament to the commitment from you as parents and our staff, to nurture and develop students, not only for academic success, but also to grow their character, their confidence and to build the personal attributes that are necessary for success beyond those qualifications and to develop them as people, widening their horizons and raising their aspirations.

I want to publicly thank all those staff who spent a week away from their loved ones to be enable those opportunities to be provided for the students and those who put so much time and effort into organising the trips, as well as those supporting the students with activities in school and those who engaged in work experience calls and visits.

On top of all of that, it was brilliant on Saturday to also see our community come together for Warlstock 2, our summer musical festival. It was fantastic to see so many students, parents, staff and friends attending, performing and supporting on Saturday.

It was a huge event and I would like to say a massive thank you to our amazing PTA for making it happen. I will share updates on the money raised, but more than any financial benefits, it was wonderful to grow the sense of community and being proud to belong to the Warlingham community. I am already looking forward to Warlstock 3 next year, as I'm sure those that attended are and those who weren't able to make it this year, I hope you can join us next time.

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I will be in touch with further messages this week, with end of term notices and information for setting ourselves up for success from the start of the new school year in September.

Kind regards

Mr P Foster

Headteacher