



10th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are keen to help our young people prepare themselves fully for adult life, and in school time we seek to do this by providing challenging lessons and academic support which ensure students achieve the highest possible examination grades as well as careers information and guidance. Additionally we offer a wide range of trips and extra-curricular activities as well as encouraging students to work together for the common good by helping others in the school community, for example by being a peer mentor or participating in liturgies, as well as through contributing to the wider community.

Away from school, a wealth of enrichment opportunities is available too, and I am sending you some links and suggestions to give you some ideas to discuss with your son or daughter, who has also received this email sent to their school account.

Podcasts and radio programmes on a wide range of subjects and topics can be found at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01gnr34

Details of **public lectures** at Cambridge University can be found at www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson. University of Hertfordshire offers open lectures on subjects not studied at school such as law and philosophy, Imperial College on all aspects of Science and the Royal Institution on Maths and Science.

Academic competitions run specifically for school students by Oxford and Cambridge universities will be promoted to students by relevant subject teachers, and entry to these may well link in with EPQ research and will be excellent to mention in a personal statement for university application.

I would like to remind you that all the major **London Museums have free entry**, and to book early if you would like to attend one of the huge number of Cambridge Science Festival events each year. Students are reminded to look at the many **free online learning** opportunities, such as the Futurewise courses, and that www.ted.com has engaging talks on a huge range of subjects- in 'M', for example, from Maths and Medicine to monkeys and magic!

The relevant institutes associated with many subjects and occupations offer free or very cheap **student memberships**, which in turn will give you lots more information and ideas.

Finally I would like to remind you that our **school library** has many academic magazines, newspapers, and books recommended for further reading by each subject leader, as well as a wide range of classic and contemporary fiction and all the main university prospectuses.

I do hope you now have lots of ideas for further academic enrichment, and no doubt once you investigate any of these you will discover many more- these are just ideas to get everyone started!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Wilkin, Assistant Headteacher

"The school's motto: 'achieving excellence for all' has become a reality at this outstanding school"
(Ofsted 2012)

