

Year 10 Parents' Newsletter - July 17, 2020

Term Ends

It has been great to see so many of you physically, or virtually – in the last few days. We hope that students and parents found the Student Consultations helpful and that students have a clear idea of their next steps. It is important that you take on board the feedback your subject teachers have provided you with as this will be crucial to your learning throughout the summer as well as your progress for next year. Staff's general census of student's effort, attitude and attendance throughout the lockdown has been positive, which is extremely pleasing, and something to continue. Thank you to students and parents for your hard work and support. We hope you have a fantastic summer and feel reinvigorated for an exciting Year 11. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Year 10 reports will be sent out via email within the next week.

Mr Piggott

September

We are preparing for a full re-opening of the school for every cohort in September. Year 11 students will return on Monday, September 7.

We will, of course, be following the prevailing government guidance to keep everyone safe and healthy when we re-open. We will provide you with the exact details in early September as we suspect it may change several times between now and then! However, at this stage, it appears likely that students will be kept in year group bubbles and various measures to minimise mixing between year groups will be in place. The full, current government guidance for the re-opening of schools can be viewed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Mr Hayes

Summer 2021 exams

You may be aware that OFQUAL are currently conducting a consultation on the Summer 2021 examination series and that there is the possibility that GCSE examinations will start slightly later in the summer of 2021. It would, therefore, be prudent not to book holidays for early July, just yet.

Whilst there has been speculation in the press that examinations content will be reduced, we feel this is highly unlikely.

We do, however, feel that grade boundaries are likely to be lower in 2021 and, therefore, this represents an opportunity for UTCN students – who have been better supported than many – to secure some excellent results.

Mr Hayes

Summer Reading Challenge

As well as academic work, we would encourage students to get involved with our Summer Reading Challenge. Good literacy skills are vital for a technical career. Reading for pleasure and for independent learning helps develop students' written skills in English, as well as being beneficial to their health and wellbeing, and fostering curiosity and empathy.

The challenge is available on the UTCN library website <https://uk.accessit.online/unv04/#!dashboard> (you can also access via the UTCN website: 'Library' is under 'Students & Parents') - in the Summer Reading Challenge presentation at the top.

Everything you need to know to take part is within this Sway presentation - students can click through it to find out about the different awards. Each level (Bronze, Silver and Gold) has a choice of options, and you can start at either Bronze or Silver level.

The challenge is aimed at Y10 students, but anyone can take part. Award winners will receive a certificate from Mr Hayes next term, and there will be prizes for the best entries from the year group in Bronze, Silver and Gold.

Mrs Settle

Dates for your Diary

Please look on the UTCN webpage for the Parents Calendar which is updated regularly. <https://utcn.org.uk/calendar>

Friday, July 17 - School closes for the Summer holidays
Friday, September 4 - School reopens for Year 10 and 12
Monday, September 7 - School is open for all year groups

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