

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Executive Headteacher: Richard Cunningham BA (Jt Hons), PGCE (Cantab), MSc, CMgr, FCMI, NPQEL  
Head of School: Amy Bonnington BA (Hons), PGCE, MA

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Dear Parents and Carers

The pace of life at Oaklands continues to be high, the primary emphasis during this half term has been on the assessments at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, especially for those students preparing for the upcoming summer public examinations.

Staff at Oaklands continue to go above and beyond to give students a variety of opportunities to enrich their love of learning. In Year 9, students were taken off timetable to learn more about the Holocaust in History and in MFL they took part in a 'Languages Day' to help them to see where studying a language could take them in the future.

Beyond the classroom, students have been diligently rehearsing for the annual school show, which this year featured the musical, "Oliver!". We extend our gratitude to all who have contributed to the success of this remarkable production, as well as to those who attended and witnessed the extraordinary talent present within our school community. Our U16 Rugby Team have reached the Hampshire Cup Final and other sporting events have been occurring frequently, showcasing the active engagement of our students in various fixtures and competitions.

We have recently hosted Chinese Students at Oaklands and our staff have been given the opportunity to travel to China to see their education system. This has been a very enriching and valuable experience for all involved.

## Uniform

Half term provides parents with an opportunity to resolve uniform issues. I have spoken to a number of students about non-regulation footwear. Students need to wear shoes that accord with the uniform policy, which makes it clear that trainers should not be worn. If you are buying new school shoes over half term, please ensure that they comply. All other uniform issues should also be resolved before we return.

Can I also remind you that students are only permitted to wear one pair of plain stud earrings and a crucifix necklace, no other jewellery items. If a student is wearing an item not on the uniform list, then it will be confiscated and handed back at the end of the half term.

Over half term we will be clearing the lost property cupboard, which sadly contains many unnamed items, the total replacement cost for parents will total hundreds of pounds. Unnamed school uniform will be recycled and sold on through our nearly new uniform store. Other items will find their way to charity clothes banks.

## Nearly New Uniform

Our Oaklands Friends' and Parents' Association (OFPA) hold an extensive collection of nearly-new uniform. More information can be found via [this link](#) and any requests or orders can be emailed to [opa@oaklandscatholicsschool.org](mailto:opa@oaklandscatholicsschool.org).



Community Unity Opportunity



## Year 9 Options

A massive thank you to all Year 9 parents for completing the options Preference Form. My team have now set to work on constructing the option blocks. Inevitably, we will not be able to please all students, and this was made clear during the Options Evening. More information will be published after half term.

## Mobile Phones

You will have seen in the media recently the ongoing debate about mobile phones in schools, and I know that other schools in the Havant Federation are looking to introduce measures to promote mobile free or partially free sites. At the present time, the Governors and SLT are looking at the different options available to schools, and we would therefore like to obtain some parent voice on this matter. I would be grateful if you could therefore complete the survey via this link:

[Mobile Phone Consultation Form for Parents Feb 2026](#)

Our current policy prohibits the use of mobile phones during the school day; phones should be switched off and in bags or pockets from 8.50am-3.30pm. We have noticed an increasing number of students using their phones for contactless payments in the canteen as they have no other payment method, which contravenes our policy. Therefore, after half term this will no longer be allowed and **students must use a debit card or their fob only** to pay for their canteen items. If they ask to use their phone, they will not be allowed and will have to get a meal voucher from the Finance Office.

## Careers Support

We are always very grateful for support from our parent community and alumni for our events during the year. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in coming in to talk to students about your work during the academic year, or supporting our Year 10 Work Experience in the Summer Term (29 June-3 July), please email Mrs McQuiston, [a.mcquiston@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:a.mcquiston@oaklandscatholicschool.org).

## Key Dates for the Remainder of the Spring Term

Monday 23 February	INSET Day – school closed for students
Tuesday 24 February – Friday 6 March	Year 13 Mocks
Thursday 26 February	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 4 March	Year 12 Post-18 Information Evening
Thursday 12 March	Design Showcase
Monday 16 – Thursday 19 March	Additional Year 11 Mocks
Thursday 19 March	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Monday 23 March	Year 13 Parents' Evening
Friday 27 March	Last day of Spring Term
Monday 13 April	Students return for Summer Term

A full list of dates for the Spring Term can be found on the [school website](#).

Finally, thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing students back at school on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Bonnington  
**Head of School**