



Friday, 26 May 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are all well and looking forward to another bank holiday weekend. It's been another busy but successful term here at TSS. As always, I would encourage you to visit our Facebook page (just search for The Sittingbourne School) for regular updates on all the fantastic things taking place here on a weekly basis. This term alone we've shared updates regarding our archery club, visits to manufacturers for our female engineering students, university visits, weekend revision sessions, mental health awareness week and much, much more.

One of our proudest moments this term came at the Kent Teacher of the Year Awards last week where our very own Mrs Hills won Maths Teacher of the Year and Ms Adams won Support Staff Member of the Year for the first class service she helps provide in our school restaurant. Both are thoroughly deserved winners and we are very proud of them.

We have also had a lot to be proud of on the track and field this term. At the District Athletics competition Lennon Leigh-Overy (discus) and Zac Cooper (javelin) both won their Year 10 events.

In Year 9 Theo Harmse (1500m) and Ria Thorpe (1500m) were both triumphant. Spencer Loveridge won two events (100m and the jump) whilst Keon Urquhart- Plummer (400m), Rylee Doddimeade (100m) and Freddie Godden (800m) all won their events in the Year 8 event.

In Year 7 Millie Rumley won both the 100m and the discus whilst Amara Nwosu (long jump), David Krivosejev (high jump) and Ola-T Adesigbin (shot put) were also champions in their events.

Well done to all our competitors over the wide range of events and thank you to our fantastic PE department for all the time and effort they put in training our stars and supervising their events.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students who are taking their exams at present the very best of luck. They have been working so hard to give themselves the best chance of success in their exams. I'm sure we can all remember the stress of going through exams ourselves (I know I certainly can) so we're making sure that there is a

range of support available to prepare the students whilst also helping them to manage the stress that comes with exams. Part of this support are the after school, Saturday and half term sessions we're running. We've had hundreds of students coming in to work with their teachers in a last push for success. As well as saying well done to the students I want to say a big thank you to all the teachers who have given up their time to help the students be as successful as possible in their exams. I am sure we will see the impact of this in our summer results.

As you know, this term we also finally got to see the report from our recent Ofsted inspection. We are very proud to have maintained our good status with so many positives about the school identified by the team of inspectors. You can read the report [here](#). As I mentioned in my email last week, one of our areas for improvement is to improve our attendance. We need every parent and carer to help us to achieve this and make sure their child is in school as much as possible. If they're not here, then they're not learning and that will have a huge impact on their chances of success when the exams come around. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

As mentioned in my letter last term, for term six only we are trialling allowing students to wear shorts to school. They must be black, knee length and smart, tailored/chino style shorts in school trouser material. The following shorts are not acceptable: sports shorts; bermuda shorts; cargo/combat shorts; lycra shorts; denim/jean shorts. Students must still wear school shoes if they choose to wear shorts. We will review how this trial has gone in a few weeks and decide if we are going to make shorts a permanent option for the summer months.

Finally, can I please ask all parents who drop off and pick up their children in a car to show consideration to our neighbours. Whilst the vast majority of parents do show consideration, sadly we have some parents who block driveways and pathways. We also have some parents who leave their engines running whilst they wait, which has a negative impact on the air quality around us. Please also avoid parking up on the grass verges as it damages the grass and makes the area look messy.

I wish all of our parents, carers, pupils and staff a restful and enjoyable break, and I look forward to seeing our students back on 5th June.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Smith'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Mr N Smith
Headteacher