

4 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to school to your son or daughter after the summer holidays. During the holiday work has progressed to make sure that the excellent school facilities are maintained and invested in. The most significant work has been in Technology where both Food Technology Rooms have been refurbished. This is part of the school's wider strategy to introduce more catering and hospitality opportunities for students.

There has also been extensive painting and cleaning of the building to make sure the positive learning environment is maintained. Planning work is underway to build a shelter between English and the Arts Building. This work will be completed over the coming months and will necessitate an area of the school grounds being closed off whilst this work is completed. We also have more outdoor seating which is due to arrive shortly.

Over the summer we celebrated some excellent examination results. In particular I would like to draw your attention to the A Level Results. They were the best ever set of results for Welling School with nearly half (46%) of exam results achieving an A*- B grades at A level or equivalent in vocational subjects. At GCSE there was also a significant increase in the number of top grades awarded. The number of 8/9s (equivalent to A/A*s) increased 59% and overall 32% of all exam results were awarded a grade 9 to 5 (equivalent A*-B).

I am also delighted that as a result of changes we introduced to the 6th Form Curriculum in the summer term that the number of students returning for A Level has significantly increased. I am very proud of the fact that Welling School is an inclusive School and due to these changes we are now able to accommodate a wider range of student ability and help students that missed a 4 in either their English or Maths GCSE.

More details about the results can be found on the school website where you will find press releases on the Home Page. The school is also making more use of twitter (@welling_school).

I would like to share a sentence from the GCSE Press Release. I said " *these results send a clear message to the whole school community that those who are dedicated to their studies can achieve great outcomes*". What defines great outcomes is different for every student. However, what is the same is that for many dedicated students they achieved the grades they needed to continue their preferred choice of post 16 education.

In order to ensure even more students achieve I and the senior team have been working hard this summer making a number of significant changes to how we run the school. Your son/daughter will have been told about these changes during an extended Form Time this morning. Essentially, what we expect from students at Welling School will be significantly higher and when students do not meet our 'non-negotiables' or break one of the school rules there will be a consequence. Highly effective schools do not need to keep reminding students how to behave and these changes will benefit your child and the whole school community. I also know creating a stricter environment for learning is one of the biggest priorities for parents and I am fully committed to realising this. Today two further letters will be shared with you. These explain changes to the Behaviour Policy and clarify our expectations for uniform and mobile phone. It is really important that parent/carers are familiar with these changes as I have instructed all staff that these policies must be followed. By spending time talking to your child you can help them ensure they arrive at school clear on expectations and fully prepared to learn.

www.wellingschool-tkat.org

Headteacher:
Mr R Pett BA Hons, MA, NPQH

Welling School
Elsa Road, Welling
Kent, DA16 1LB

Tel: 020 8304 8531
Fax: 020 8301 6414
Email: enquiries@wellingschool-tkat.org



I am excited for the year ahead and remain committed to consulting with parent/carers regarding further changes to the school that will benefit your child.

With very best wishes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr R Pett
Headteacher