



24 March 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and all in the Chessington School community

It has been another cracking week at our school. Our exam year students have worked tirelessly in another set of well planned mock exams, our Local Authority advisor gave us very good praise in their visit report and our Year 13 students have received their university offers - which is a historic milestone on our journey as a school. As well as this, we opened our new salad bar (very well received by a Year 11 student who has just told me that *'the cous cous was BANGING!'*) there was a great atmosphere at Year 7 parents evening on Thursday and to top it all off, our girls football team smashed Hollyfield 12 - 0 at football in Years 7 and 8!

Options

Year 9 parents remember that today at 4.00pm the options form goes live. Colleagues and our Careers guidance team have worked hard to ensure the best information has been given. Now it's over to you. Remember, to get the forms in ahead of the deadline.

Head of School Role

As I mentioned a few weeks ago we have a Head of School recruitment process in place and are now recruiting this week. What has been both lovely and a challenge has been parents asking if I'm leaving. Put simply - no. You don't get rid of me that easily! I love this school and this community. In the Exec Head and Head of School model operated across many schools locally, The Head of School runs the daily operations of the school. They will manage Chessington and I will continue to lead Chessington with them in my role as Executive Headteacher.

Our kids deserve fresh views, day to day attention and someone focussed only on their progress and well being. I will be based at Chessington, supporting our beautiful children at Chessington and always fighting for our school to be the best it can be as well as our family of schools. I can't do this alone, hence the adding of this capacity.

It really is an honour to think that many of you (not all!) are concerned. Rest assured that our school is the priority, that we will make sure whomever gets this role shares our values and that Chessington school is where I will be next year physically and in terms of priorities. We have had some cracking applications from across the borough and the community, I will let you know next week who our Governors, Colleagues and I have selected. Our kids, our school and our community deserve the very best and we will ensure they have that.

Everyone valued • Every day an opportunity • Every moment focused on success



Year 10 Mock Exams

Year 10 parents will receive these soon. The Year 10 Mock Exam process starts on Tuesday 2nd of May and finishes on the 12th May. We complete this process for Year 10 earlier in the year so that we are clear on what we need to revisit in lessons to improve grades but also to ensure students have time for predicted grades for either our Sixth form or college. More information will follow.

Easter fun and revision

A reminder to all please that we will finish at midday on Friday 31st March for the Easter holidays. That afternoon myself, 8 colleagues and 80 eager Chessington students will be boarding a coach that will take us to the top of the mountains in Austria for the much awaited school ski trip. As soon as we return we will be launching the next Ski Trip for all Year groups for 2025. Year 11 parents please ensure that your child is taking advantage of the Easter revision sessions that will be available for Year 11s during the break. Year 10 and 11 parents please make sure we make exams the household focus over Easter with both year groups in exams in May. All students will return to school at 10:35 on Monday 17th April.

So, exciting times for our school. I will write again next week with updates and the final communication of the term. As always, thanks for your support and feedback. Have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely

Ash Ali
Headteacher - Chessington School
CEO - The Every Child Every Day Academy Trust