

20 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reading, Revision, Rest

Read, Read, Read

Almost 1800 reading books have been borrowed from the school library over the past six weeks. This phenomenal figure shows how so many of our students are hooked on reading. It goes without saying that reading is fundamental to success in all subjects. Over the half-term break, please check in with what book your son/ward is reading. Ask him to read aloud, read to siblings/cousins, and read to you. Finally, ensure that he reads little and often. Good readers become good speakers and, essentially, good speakers become good writers; when this happens, students make rapid progress.

Revise, Revise, Revise

We know that many students in Years 11 and 13 are already actively revising. If your son/ward is not, it is never too late to start. As a general rule, students should be revising for two hours on every school evening and four hours each day over the weekend as well as holiday period. In the lead-up to internal assessments, these same principles apply to all students. Active revision involves an enormous amount of retrieval practice using knowledge organisers as well past papers and online testing. It does not involve simply reading and highlighting; this is passive revision which is highly ineffective.

Kew Gardens – FREE Entry

Working alongside EcoWorld London as well as the Kew Gardens our Careers Advisor - Mr Adams - has secured over 1000 tickets for families to use at the Royal Botanical estate near Kew Bridge. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to connect and visit one of the UK's most important scientific and historical sites.

The terms and conditions are all on the leaflet attached to your email. Upon arrival at the gates, visitors from Isleworth & Syon School simply show the leaflet with the QR code to gain entry. The admissions allow maximum six visitors per group, but the offer does not include Christmas at Kew or their 'Lates' offering. This offer finishes on 10 January 2024. Students are asked to take photographs at Kew in preparation for an in-school competition in Autumn Term 2.

MIND – Positive Wellbeing and Mental Health

It is important that, over the half-term break, we all take time to support our wellbeing and mental health by living out our well-embedded MIND principles daily. Have a great half-term.

Yours faithfully,



Simon Fisher
Co-Headteacher



Jo Higginbottom
Co-Headteacher