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achievement for all

ERE/sr

3rd November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Important Information for Parents/Carers - Term 2

This letter is to make you aware that this term we begin a major focus on careers & what to do after year 11.

Pupils have already learned about apprenticeships, where to find information & how to apply in one of our Academic Mentoring Sessions. These are really useful websites which you will find helpful.

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch> - this is where students can register and search apprenticeships nationally

<http://www.apprenticekent.com/home> - this is a new site being developed and launched by KCC to advertise just those apprenticeships local to the county

All pupils have access to an online careers programme called ***Cascade KUDOS***. Here, by completing activities online, pupils can find possible career pathways & study ideas that they may never have thought of, have no idea about and so may get some real inspiration. They can explore ideas they already have & discover more information about careers or study they may already be considering. It is an extremely helpful site which we hope you will go onto with your child - lots of relevant advice & information. This does include access to a jobs database which is current & live. All pupils have their login & have accessed it already with their mentor.

We are taking all of our Year 11 students to the Careers Fair at the Lea's Cliff Hall on Thursday 10th November. The coaches will leave at 1.15pm and arrive there at 1.30pm. All students will be dismissed from the Fair at 3pm and will need to make their own way home.

There will be lots of local businesses and enterprise stalls showing the students what will be available for them in the way of apprenticeships when they leave school in July. We hope this will be beneficial in helping students to choose their destinations after their summer exams.



We would appreciate it if you could fill in the permission slip which is attached and send it back to school by Tuesday 8th November 2016 to your son/daughters mentor.

Pupils have also received a useful booklet from KCC called '*The Next Step - a Guide for Your Future*'. This booklet contains dates for College Open Days across Kent. IT also contains very clear information about what options are open to young people at 16+. Please go through this with your child; it is very informative & does explain what choices are out there. Every pupil was given a booklet just prior to half term following an Academic Mentoring session - if they have not brought it home yet, please just let us know!

Supermocks - All pupils will be taking a series of formal mock exams over *two weeks beginning 5th December*. We are using Academic Mentoring sessions, OSL sessions as well as lesson time to help pupils prepare for the exams. This includes showing them 'how to' revise & organise their time effectively. It would help us if you could reinforce the need to revise at home & to work consistently outside the school day in preparation for the mocks as well as the final summer exams. We will hold a formal results session & careers event with pupils on 13th January.

Finally, the pupils have established a Prom Committee who will be in touch with you shortly about some fund raising events & ideas they have to raise money for what looks like being an exceptionally good Prom as the final farewell for Pent Valley! Please look out for information as it comes through. On behalf of the prom Committee, we thank you in the anticipation of your support.

If you would like any further information about any of the above, please do get in touch. Once again, many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



MS E REDPATH
Headteacher



MRS SHELLEY KYLE
Leader Year 11

