



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

*Helping shape the future since 1555*



18 May 2021

## Year 11 celebration assembly and Optional Research Project

Dear Parents/Guardians

Year 11 students will be participating in a leavers' assembly on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021** during periods 7 and 8. This is their last compulsory school day following their In Class Assessments.

The day will involve students attending their normal timetabled lessons, periods 1-6, unless they have an ICA in Classics or Astronomy in which case they will attend that assessment in the designated room. This will be followed by a leavers' assembly involving musical performances and presentations until 3:45pm.

Students should be encouraged to bring a spare school shirt with them on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May in the event that they would like to get a shirt signed – students will not be allowed to walk around the site wearing signed shirts. In addition, we will be speaking to the Year 11 in an assembly to outline our expectations concerning their final day in Year 11. On occasion some students can misjudge the mood of the day and let themselves down with inappropriate behaviour and poor actions. Whilst we expect this will not be the case for this year group, it is important that students understand that they may be asked to leave the site sooner if they make a poor decision. There is always a challenge in dealing with a day that is slightly different with a more relaxed atmosphere, whilst also ensuring that students do not overstep the mark on what must be, after all, a normal working day for other students in the school. We very much expect this to be a positive occasion for all parties.

Therefore, we thought that it would be helpful if we clarified the expectations for the day. These can be summarised as follows:-

- Appearance – full, correctly worn uniform is expected. Normal rules on hairstyles, make-up etc.
- Behaviour – usual high expectations in terms of conduct will be expected. Any behaviour that disrupts the normal working of the school day or inconveniences others will not be tolerated.

## Independent Research Project: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Following the completion of their ICAs and before they begin their Sixth Form preparation, we would like to offer Year 11 the option of completing an independent research project in a subject area of their choice. If they would like to complete this additional project, we advise that they chose a subject in which they have a genuine interest, and ideally will be taking at A Level in September.

Headmaster: Mr. Jonathan M. Webb, MA (Cantab).

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Students are free to choose the subject and title of their project. However, if they struggle to think of a specific area of interest, they may simply pick a subject and choose one of the titles suggested by their teachers. The project will be an opportunity for students to explore a topic in greater detail, develop key academic skills and engage with literature prior to the next step in their academic careers. If they opt to undertake the project, they will be allocated a two week period (between **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June**) to complete their research and create a poster presentation. Students will present their findings in school between **21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> June**.

Students will present their poster presentation, lasting no more than 5 minutes, to a member of staff and a small group of their peers (if they feel unable to present in front of their peers, please contact me). They will receive feedback on the skills outlined below:

- Understanding of the topic
- The idea or theory investigated
- Communication skills
- Presentation skills
- Reflection skills
- Ability to interpret and use relevant information
- Ability to draw conclusions from a variety of sources

To indicate their intention to complete the project, students must complete the form they have been sent via e-mail.

As previously mentioned, results day for GCSEs is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. At the moment, arrangements for the release of the results are yet to be finalized due to potential changes in government guidance. As soon as a decision has been made about the release of results, you and the students will be informed.

May I take this opportunity to express what a fantastic year group the current Year 11 are; their academic ability, endeavour and contributions to wider aspects of school life has been impressive.

I wish them every success in the future.

**Miss R Clark**  
**Head of Upper School**

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