

Dear Parents and Students

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself, Richard May, to you all as the new Head of Mars House, I have taken over from Mr Forest who has now joined the senior leadership of the College. We all will wish him well.

I have been at Frome College for three years and most recently Deputy Head of Saturn House working with the wonderful Ms March but have been teaching for more than thirty years now and have held many different jobs and can honestly say I have enjoyed each of them. I teach English as well as having the pastoral role, so I have met many students in Mars house. Most students in College know who I am and know where they can find me if they need help. I will be holding assemblies and will go into most tutor groups most mornings so students will have a chance to see and chat with me daily. We are extremely lucky in that Mr McCarthy is staying with Mars House as my deputy. He has worked tirelessly to support students in their attendance and academic progress, and I am very grateful to be working with him.

A key focus for the coming year is attendance and punctuality. If students miss or are late for tutor they miss key information for the day, room changes, and will now miss the revision materials being delivered in tutor time. Missing tutor time puts students on the back foot for the day, please ensure they are in school at the latest of 8:40am. If students are not in school, they cannot benefit from the opportunities to learn that are available. A missed day, five missed lessons can really interrupt and disrupt a student's pattern of learning, and they can never get that time back. So, with your help, we will ensure students get the best opportunities to succeed by maintaining excellent attendance.

My life away from College revolves around the world of dog rescues, I am the Chairman of the Pointer Rescue Service, we specialise in caring for English Pointers that for various reasons find themselves uncared for and in need of a fosterer or new family.

I have six Pointers of my own who keep me walking all over Salisbury Plain, Longleat Estate and generally all-over southern England. We have beach runs around the country where we publicise a beach run. Dogs and their new owners who have adopted through us meet up for great beach walks. We have an annual walk on New Years Day at Knoll Beach near Sandbanks.

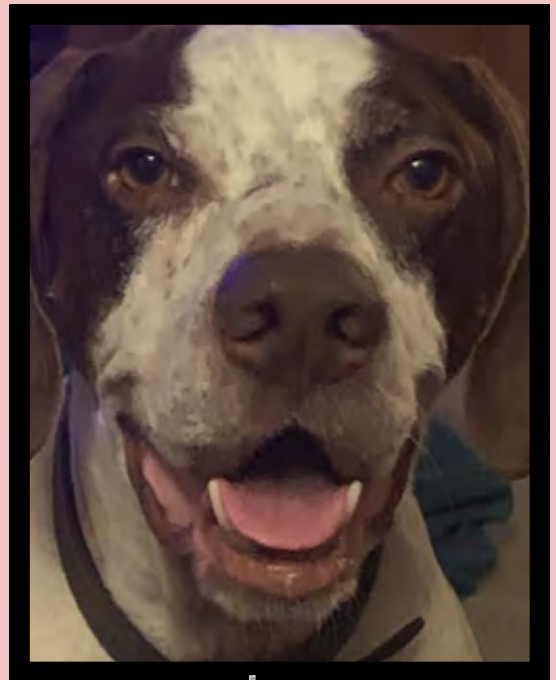
I am looking forward to working with all students, carers and parents of Mars House. As the year further develops, I will be in touch and if you need to contact the school about your child, your child's tutor is the first point of call, student services, Mr McCarthy and I are all here to help too.

Richard May
Head of Mars House
Teacher of English
Frome College
Midsomer Norton Trust

Click to find out more!



Suzy



Charlie



Jasper



RMA/JDJ

2 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Mars House students

Happy season's greetings to you all.

I am writing with some key points in the run up to the Christmas break:

1. Please encourage all students into school, they need to be in school to learn.
2. Tutor period is critical now, the first 30 minutes of the day. Not only are there revision sessions taking place for key subject areas, but also the daily announcements that students need to know, everything from room changes to exam arrangements.
3. The Year 11 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 12 December. This is a vital Parents' Evening in the push towards the summer exams. You can consult staff and ensure you can support your child to do their best. Please book appointment as soon as you can.

Please, please keep up the attendance and daily punctuation.

Kind regards

Richard May
Head of Mars House

RMA/JDJ

3 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Years 9 and 10 Mars House Students

Season's greetings to everyone.

In the run up to Christmas I would ask parents to strongly support us with getting students into college and on time. Historically, as Christmas approaches attendance can drop off, this year I would like to reverse that trend.

Tutor time is the MOST important time of the day for all students. Not only for the tutorial content, but for the daily notices. These range from room changes, extra revision/subject lessons, clubs and societies as well as upcoming events. When students miss a tutor period they can often fall behind for the rest of the day, not knowing where to go when a class has moved for example.

Finally, a push for uniform and equipment, if students are short of equipment, perhaps Santa could supply them for the start of next term!

Happy holidays and a peaceful new year to everyone.

Kind regards

Mr Richard May
Head of Mars House