

**Head**  
Jolie Kirby, BA, NPQH

## Cheney School

Cheney Lane, Headington  
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*Think for yourself, act for others*

## From Mrs J Kirby, Head

9 December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of term, I write to share with you some of the key memorable events that students have taken part in during the Autumn term.

It has been inspirational to witness so many of our Sixth Form students taking part in the Gold Award of the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, and we will be extending this programme to include even more students in the Silver and Bronze Award in the forthcoming year.

The school motto 'Think for yourself, act for others', has been very much in evidence by the amount of charity-based work our students have been involved in this term. We will conclude the term on this theme, with the school community raising money for the charity 'Help Thomas to Dance', by wearing Christmas jumpers and our own clothes. Thomas is a local 3-year-old who has Cerebral Palsy and is unable to stand independently. He needs surgery to increase his chance of walking. This money will help to pay for this surgery, which is not covered by the NHS. For more information see: <https://helptothomas2dance.com/home/>

It is of particular note that so many of our students have taken up Student Leadership roles, with the relaunch of our student Prefect Team and we look forward to students taking Prefect roles in support and in shaping the future of the school, together with staff.

As we look forward to the new school year students in Year 10 and Year 11 will be undertaking their mock examinations straight after Christmas and timetables will be sent. If any parents have not seen these by Wednesday 14 December, then please do check with either Mrs Bradley, Head of Year 11 (jbr@cheney.oxon.sch.uk) or Mr McEvoy, Head of Year 10 (sme@cheney.oxon.sch.uk). We use the mock examination results to consider a student's suitability for our post-16 courses and our Sixth Form Head, Miss Doherty (hdy@cheney.oxon.sch.uk), will be delighted to see Year 11 students and parents at the post-16 evening, on Thursday 26 January 2017, 5.45 pm – 8:00 pm.

We will be welcoming a new Head of Year 8 Mr Jerome, who will be in touch with parents of Year 8 students in the New Year.

We have been incredibly impressed by the level of student participation in Creative Arts this term, with highlights being The Winter Lights Parade, The Christmas Concert, and we look forward to the drama department's A Christmas Carol, on Wednesday 14 December 2016.



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### Arrangements for the *last day of term* and *first day of term*.

Please be aware that last day of term is Friday 16 December and that the school will finish at 12:30 pm, with students leaving from 12:15 pm.

The first day of term is Tuesday 3 January 2017, with students needing to be at school by **8:25 am**.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and cooperation by helping to make sure that your son/daughter is wearing *correct school uniform*? Staff will be supporting our uniform policy by making uniform checks in the new year, and you will be contacted if your son/daughter is not wearing correct uniform. We may be asking some students to return home to put on the correct uniform. I attach the uniform list, for your information, together with new information regarding library books.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and guardians for all you have done to support the school in 2016 and we look forward to working with you in 2017.

I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jolie Kirby'.

Mrs Kirby  
Head of Cheney School

