

January 2012

Dear Year 7 Parents/Guardians

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a happy Christmas break, time with your families and time to relax.

Welcome to Spring Term 2012! I very much hope that your daughters have enjoyed their first term at Channing and now feel that they are Channing girls, that they belong and are valued.

We have a busy programme ahead. The girls will go straight into lessons on Day 1. Our Habit of Mind this term is Taking Responsible Risks. I hope that you will support us at home in this approach. Having a go, thinking on one's feet and making mistakes are an important aspect of learning and help to build a girl's thinking skills and confidence. It is not always about getting things right.

Just a reminder that girls will not be in school on Friday 13 January because of the 11+ examination. They will be expected to study at home using Studywiz where work for each lesson will be set.

The girls will set their three targets on Tuesday 17 January and will record these in their diaries for you to read. These will arise from their performance last term. Tutors will help set these targets and ensure they are specific, measurable, achievable and realistic. Perhaps you will talk to your daughters before then about suggestions for her academic and personal (organisation/extra-curricular) targets in order to focus her thoughts. Tutors will review them after half term.

Do please continue to sign your daughters' diaries weekly. This is a useful way of keeping track and picking up on any issues you might need to communicate to the tutor. Do also communicate any change of details, circumstances or significant information you think we should know, however small.

Some dates for you to note this term:

Saturday 28th January - Channing Association Spring Social

Monday 13th - Friday 17th February - Half Term

Thursday 23rd February - Spring Concert

Week beginning Monday 27 February – Year 7 Charity Week

Thursday 1 March – Channing Jazz Evening

Saturday 10th March – Year 7 and 8 Disco

Thursday 15 March – Choral and Orchestral Concert, St Joseph's Church

Friday 30th March - Spring Term ends at 3pm

Tuesday 17th April - Summer Term begins at 8.20am

There will be a second Parents' Evening at the start of next term.

I wish you and your daughters a happy term ahead.

Rowena Harper
Head of Middle School