

# The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL



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18 July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of what has been a very busy and eventful year at TDMS, I wanted to provide you with some information about results days, next term's arrangements and to thank you again for the support you continue to give the school.

Results days are as follows:

GCE A & AS Level Results	Thursday 16 August 2018	Year 13 students	8.00am to 11.00am
GCSE Results	Thursday 23 August 2018	all students	9.00am to 11.00am

Looking back briefly over the year we were pleased with our latest SATs results, which have seen us consolidate and improve further on the tremendous gains made last year. Whilst we recognise that we have still lots to do to achieve the standards we are aspiring to, we must congratulate the students and the staff who have worked so hard.

We are also very proud that Denise Hannibal WCC Education Advisor-Safeguarding visited TDMS in June and found our safeguarding procedures to be exemplary. This of course built upon Ofsted May 2017 stating 'there is a culture of safeguarding in the school'.

Throughout the year, our students' attitudes towards learning have been continuously improving, a view reinforced by the numbers of detentions falling by 33% from last year and to their lowest levels since 2014 when we introduced our higher expectations and same day detentions. Exclusion have also been significantly reduced.

Attendance however, remains a major priority for us at TDMS, so please do ensure that your child(ren) really appreciate that every day really does matter. Indeed, research has indicated that even attendance at 95% can mean one lower grade across every subject at GCSE compared to 100% (so perhaps the difference between a 5 and a 6 or between an 8 or a 9 with the new numbered system).

Throughout the year, we have especially enjoyed working closely alongside our First Schools. With regard to St Richard's CofE First School we were absolutely delighted to be able to support their fantastic "Race for Life" where they raised over £3000 for Cancer Research UK, and their Sports Day both of which were attended by large numbers of parents. St Richard's Years 4 and 5 also joined us for a very moving remembrance service at TDMS in November

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and as 2018 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of The Great War, Mr Ridlinton (Headteacher at St Richard's) and I are looking to involve even more year groups on **Friday 9 November 2018**. We are of course also hoping to be joined by as many parents as possible from both our schools, coming together to recognise the sacrifices made by others for the freedoms we enjoy. More details to follow.

The year has ended with an excellent Awards Evening where we were able to celebrate the tremendous academic and personal achievements of many of our students. A special thank you to Cllr Peter Tomlinson who presented the awards and spoke about the importance of determination, resilience and taking opportunities in life.

A special thank you to all those parents who have given their time to support our Parent Voice Team who have met throughout the year. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 23 October at 6.00pm** and if you would like to be part of this team which constantly looks at how we can continue to improve our school, you would be very welcome. One area that we want to explore further is the format of parents' evenings as we want to continue to increase the number of parents attending, so this item will be on the agenda for our first meeting.

As you know, cultural diversity is important to us at TDMS so we would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the parents who hosted our German exchange students earlier in the year.

I am sure you will join with me in thanking the staff at TDMS who yet again have "gone beyond the call" to help unlock your child's potential.

TDMS students return on **Wednesday 5 September 2018 (except Year 13 who start on Thursday 6 September 2018)**, and our new timings of the school day are detailed below. We would also like to remind you of our high uniform expectations and have attached our uniform list as a reminder.

Assembly / Tutor	9.00am
Lesson 1	9.20am
Lesson 2	10.10am
Break	11.00am
Lesson 3	11.20am
Lesson 4	12.10am
Lunch	1.00pm
Lesson 5	1.50pm
Lesson 6	2.40pm
School ends	3.30pm

Good luck again to all our students awaiting examination results over the summer.

Wishing everyone a restful, safe and happy summer break.

Yours sincerely



Guy Nichols