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Dear Parents/Guardians

BWS ARTS WEEK 2016: 4 - 8 July

I'm writing to inform you of an exciting series of events and opportunities that will be running across the School from the **week beginning 4 July**. Following on from the success of Mrs Armstrong's *Festival of Culture* last year, we have decided to expand this concept into a whole week's worth of activities. We have managed to run this week with no cost to boys or parents. Lessons *will* continue to run as normal, but we hope that this distraction from a normal week will be both inspirational and productive!

As well as being able to sign up for a whole host of creative workshops, boys will be offered a range of talks, tours, performances, debates, visits and screenings that span the world of the Creative Arts. Some events are rolled out across whole year groups; others, boys will have to opportunity to sign up for. We have visiting artists, novelists, journalists and crafters for the boys to get to meet and interact with! Boys will be able to access what's on and where via a QR code that will be put up around the School and that they will need to scan with their phones. There will also be posters advertising events. We will also publicise on Twitter.

It is our hope that this week will serve to remind boys about the importance of Creative Industries and of the aesthetic world around them in general! It is very timely that Parliament is debating whether the Creative Arts should be included in The English Baccalaureate in the very same week; and we hope that, as well as enjoying what the week has to offer, the boys can also understand how vital the Arts are in our lives

Finally, we'd like to give a huge thanks to the BWSPA who have been very generous with their help towards artists who have charged; as well as towards the many artists, writers and visitors who will not be charging for their services. On a personal level, I'd also like to thank Kate McLaren, Head of Art, who has raided her address book to entice many artistically-inclined contacts to give their services for free during the week!

We hope that you can get behind the boys by encouraging them to take part – without their participation, none of this can happen.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Craig Ennew
Head of English