

# Newsletter

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Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Welcome back to school everyone, for what I hope will be an exciting and productive school year. Starting a new school year always gives us the opportunity to make improvements and build upon the successes of the past. This year we have such a lot of positives to build on and some exciting developments planned for us as a school.

However, it is also an opportunity for us to look back, change our working practices and make sure that we are meeting the needs and demands that our students face in their day-to-day lives.

We start the new school year with a full and permanent staffing team, which is a great achievement for our school. We are delighted to welcome our new team members; Mrs Carter; Mr Lomax; Mrs Thomas and Mrs Grandison.

You may have noticed that our school entrance and outdoor space has been modified over the Summer break. This is in preparation for the start of our new building works at the end of September. Whilst there will undoubtedly be some disruption to the day to day arrangements in school I am working very closely with the staff and project management team to minimise the impact of the building works on our students. I am confident that the next 10 months will take us to an amazing new school building which will enable us to provide a richer and broader curriculum to our students in September 2019. Please keep an eye on the website in coming weeks as we post updates of the progress of the building works.

You will have received a number of forms to return to your child's form tutor this week including data collection and consent forms. Please can you ensure these are returned as swiftly as possible? It is crucial that we have up to date contact details for you and other nominated contacts for your child for safeguarding purposes.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have any questions or suggestions.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Bailey

## **What's Coming Up!**

Key Dates and events:

w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept – Outdoor education session commence.
21 <sup>st</sup> September – Jeans for Genes day
26 <sup>th</sup> September – European day of languages
27 <sup>th</sup> September – Full management committee meeting
28 <sup>th</sup> September – INSET day school closed to students

Lunch menu:

Monday	<b>Meatballs</b>
Tuesday	<b>Hot dogs</b>
Wednesday	<b>Roast Dinner</b>
Thursday	<b>Baked potato with cheese and beans</b>
Friday	<b>Fish, chips and peas</b>

Attendance:

Whole School	42.2%
8RD	91.7%
9KC	46.2%
9DK	60%
10NC	25%
10PI	50%
11NR	32.5%
Tuition	14.8%

National average for pupil referral units is 67%

## **School Uniform**

All students will be provided with a school polo shirt this week in their house colours. Students who choose to wear their polo shirt will receive additional points for their house. This year is a great opportunity for students to get used to the new dress code as this will become compulsory for all students as we move into the new building in September 2019.

Additional polo shirts are available to purchase from the school office should you require them.

## **Attendance**

You will see that I have included our school attendance information on the newsletter this week. I will be providing this information on a weekly basis via the newsletter but also on the student information board at school. Having a good attendance as a whole school over the last school year has proved to be a challenge. Whilst I recognise that we have seen an increase in authorised absence through illness our rates of unauthorised absence remain too high.

As a school we will do all we can to help and support you with improving your child's attendance, the last this we want is to request a fixed penalty notice from the local authority. We work very closely with our Education Welfare Officer to prevent this where possible.

A fixed penalty notice may be issued when.....

- You take an unauthorised holiday. If you take an unauthorised holiday during term time you may be issued with a FPN. A fine is £60 per child, per parent. For more information on FPN's please look at the attendance information on our school website.
- There are unauthorised absences. You can be issued with a FPN if your child has 10 unauthorised absences over two consecutive half terms. As a school we will write to you well before a FPN is requested. This is to give you an opportunity to work with us to make improvements. We would only request a FPN if there was no improvement in attendance.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or require support in improving your child's attendance please speak to your child's form tutor in the first instance.

## **Timetables**

Your child has been provided with a copy of their timetable this week. If you require a copy for yourself (or for the fridge door in my house) please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's form tutor. All new tutors will be making contact with home this week to introduce themselves to you so you know who to contact in the first instance over the coming months.