



Friday 31st March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Messages for this week as we head into the two week Easter break:

Punctuality and Attendance

Our records show that pupils' attendance at school has not yet returned to the high levels we were seeing pre-pandemic. Every lesson missed can create a gap in knowledge or understanding and can also make children feel less confident about their next lesson. Research also clearly shows the direct impact of absence on children's final grades in Year 11. I feel that it must be very difficult for families to balance the conflicting messages where schools were saying "You must attend" and then the pandemic found us saying "You can't come in"; now we're back to the "You must attend" scenario and yet external forces are counteracting this with strike days and additional bank holidays. All of this will have significantly disrupted routines established over years and this is a real challenge for all of us.

I do know that if pupils aren't in school, they are missing out on the learning opportunities to which they are entitled. We really need your support to ensure that your child is in school and engaged with their learning every day and if you feel that you need some support with this, please do get in touch. Our brilliant Attendance Officer, Mrs Cherry, has a wealth of knowledge and experience and can help! Our expectation is that every child should be attending for **at least 96%** of the time.

In a similar vein, punctuality is poor at the moment for a significant number of pupils. After the Easter break we are moving to a **single start time for all year groups of 8:35am**. This is the time at which registration starts and so pupils should be **arriving by 8:30am** in order to reach their form room on time. Again, your support with this is very much appreciated.

Just a reminder that free (and very popular!) breakfast bagels are available to all pupils between 8:15 and 8:25am each morning.

Sporting news

Our year 7 football team finished the season with a 4-0 win over St Thomas More. They were unbeaten in the league and played some beautiful football!

Mr Brown and Mr Shaw are very proud of them!

Last week, our year 9 football team played Audenshaw, in the semi-final of the Tameside Cup. It was an incredible match that finished 5-5; unfortunately, we lost the penalty shootout. Mr Patel reports that the whole team played brilliantly and are determined to get to the final next year.



Coding Club

Mr Power would like to thank all the Year 7 students that attended the Coding Club. It was great to see such fantastic apps and games being created, especially the creative Pokemon games!

After Easter there will be a Coding Club available for all Year 8 students, who will be given the opportunity to use Swift Playground. This will be held in Mr Panter's classroom (1.13) every Wednesday. See you there!

Talented Mathematicians

Several of our talented mathematicians in Years 9, 10 and 11 have taken part in the national Intermediate Maths Challenge with 15 students achieving the Bronze Award and a further 12 students achieving the Silver Award! A special mention for Nafis (our only Year 8 entry) who also achieved a Silver Award!

Congratulations too to Awais and Amanee who achieved Gold Awards and Arman who has qualified for the next 'Pink Kangaroo' stage!

The Junior Maths Challenge will take place at the end of April 😊

Pursuing Individual Excellence

Our Year 10 Computing and Business students who are taking part in the Pursuing Individual Excellence (PIE) Future Ready club spent their Thursday afternoon this week putting together packs of Easter treats as random acts of kindness. This will help them achieve the 'community' slice of their PIE. They worked so hard and their efforts are highly appreciated by all the staff. Thank you Team PIE!



Personal Development

Earlier this month Year 9 students had the opportunity to interview employers from industry. This was to help them to learn more about the world of work, skills and qualifications needed and progression as part of the options process.

Year 9 were fantastic and asked lots of great questions.

A big thank you to all the employers who kindly took time out of their day to attend this event.

This week, our Year 8 Gateways cohort attended the University of Manchester where they took part in events including Alphabet Soup, UCAS Search Workshop, 'Create your dream course', networking and researching universities. Well done to all those pupils involved who were excellent representatives of our school.

High Expectations

School reopens after the break on Monday 17th April and to keep our standards high, we will be conducting our usual uniform and equipment checks on return so a few reminders:

- Full Hyde PE kit must be worn on PE days (please note that high tops are not acceptable for PE).
- Skinny/lycra trousers are not allowed for school.
- Plain black shoes on non-PE days (no trainers).
- Skirts must be of an appropriate length for a school setting.
- All pupils must have a school bag large enough to carry A4 sized books or files.
- Blazers must be worn every day.
- Hoodies are not allowed on non-PE days.
- No make-up at all in Years 7 – 9; discreet foundation and mascara only in Years 10 and 11.
- False nails and false eyelashes are not permitted.
- No jewellery (all year groups).

Also, a reminder that fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not permitted in school and will be confiscated.

We are extremely proud of how smart our pupils look and very grateful for your support with this. If you find that you need some additional uniform items for the summer term, we do have a stock of clean, good condition items available via Reception.

I wish all of our pupils and families a lovely break and look forward to a positive and productive start to the summer term in two weeks' time.

Best wishes,



Andrea Radcliffe

Headteacher