

Headteacher: Mrs Claire Elliott, BA Hons PGCE

14th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers.

As we head into the final weeks of this academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you some of the fantastic achievements your children have made and to remind you of the exciting plans we have before the end of term.

There have been many events and occasions that have made me proud of this school. Just a few examples have included the students who volunteered to join our Community Committee that we established this year and will continue into next. The students involved took part in a village litter pick, visited a care home to play board games with the residents and helped to plant new trees in our school and around the village. Our year 9 students have been undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh award – enthusiastically setting off last weekend with their backpacks for their expedition. Year 11 students have almost completed their GCSE examinations and will be looking ahead to their Prom and Leavers' Day event.

Year 10 have their mock examinations starting imminently, which will teach them the formal process of an exam season. For students in year 10 who have demonstrated hard work and commitment, there is an award day planned for after the exams that promises to be fun and allows us to say well done for the positive attitude they are showing. We also have our annual Sports Day and Summer Concert, details of which are to follow soon.

In the final week of the term, we have our activities days planned for year 7, 8 and 9. A number of students will be going to France at the start of the week for their residential. Three days for all other students include a variety of trips and experiences that we are hoping the students will enjoy and will help to build fond memories.

On the final day of the year, we will be awarding our long-awaited Foundation Award to students in year 7, 8 and 9 who have been attending clubs, participating in community activities and working well in their lessons. Successful students in year 7 will achieve their bronze badge, year 8 silver and year 9 gold. We are very excited to be able to present the award for dedication that has been shown throughout the school year.

On another note, you may also be aware that there will be a small number of staff leaving the school at the end of the year. Firstly, I want to acknowledge that changes in staffing can appear unsettling. However, our departing colleagues are moving on due to a variety of reasons including retirement, promotion and pursuing new adventures abroad. We are deeply grateful for their contributions to our school community and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. I also want to reassure you that we have replaced each vacancy with highly qualified and enthusiastic professionals who are eager to join our team.

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The new Head Teacher has already visited the school on numerous occasions, engaging with both staff and students. Mr Beale's commitment to maintaining our high standards and driving forward our vision for excellence has been evident in these visits. He is keen to continue the exciting journey for our school, building on our strengths and addressing areas for improvement.

As we approach the end of term and start to plan for September, I want to reassure you that our primary focus remains on providing the best possible educational experience for your children. We are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the high standards that you have come to expect from our school. Our staff, both new and existing, are committed to supporting our students through these transitions and ensuring a smooth and positive start to the new school year.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this period of change.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Elliott Headteacher

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