

30 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the weekly newsletter.

## Year 11

On Wednesday we said a formal goodbye to Year 11. After an assembly in the Hall including an 8 minute video show of photos from the past 5 years, we moved to shirt signing and breakfast. There was a really lovely atmosphere in the school as Year 11 shared their memories and could relax after their efforts of revision and exams. It was very special that they also remembered Sean who died during Year 10 and signed a shirt to give to his family. A link to the video has been sent to Year 11 parents and carers.

In the evening we had one of the most enjoyable Proms I can remember with so many dancing the night away and looking so grown up after arriving on everything from a fire engine to motor bikes.

Thank you to Miss Clancy for all her work with this year group and to the mentors especially. We look forward to seeing Year 11 on 24 August for results day. Details about this will be sent out later.

## The School Day

From September 2023 the timings of the school day will be adjusted very slightly to accommodate Government expectations that a school week be 32.5 hours. School will begin at 8.45 a.m. and end at 3.15 p.m. so just a 5 minute change at either end of the day.

We will continue to have 5 periods per day Tuesday to Friday but timings of lessons have been changed on a Monday to allow for a 6 period day and PSHE will always be a Monday Period 1 with the Mentor rather than moving through the timetable as it does now.

## Strike Action

I remind you that Wednesday 5 July is a day of Industrial action by the NEU. Only Years 9 and 10 are in school with Years 7 and 8 asked to work at home. A 'shadow' timetable will be sent home next Tuesday for students to follow if they either do not have their normal teacher (if in school) or nothing is set on Synergy if they are working at home.

## Sports Day

Next Thursday 6 July is Sports Day if the weather permits. This is always an enjoyable day in school and students can attend in PE kit provided it is school kit. Students arriving in any other kit will not be allowed to participate in Sports Day.



### INSET Day

I remind you that Friday 7 July is an INSET day and so students are not in school.

### Welcome Day

Yesterday we welcomed those 200 students who will be joining us in September and then had an evening with them and their parents/carers. I hope they had a really enjoyable day and we look forward to working with them over the next 5 years.

### Social media

Can I please ask that if you have a concern with any aspect of school that you make an appointment to see me or another relevant member of staff rather than posting comments on social media which are not very constructive.

### London Trip

I hope the 50 Year 8 students who are leaving for London next Friday have a fantastic few days seeing the sights and experiencing our vibrant capital city.

### Cardinal Newman College visit

Many of our Year 10 students will be visiting Cardinal Newman College on Tuesday 4 July to look at and experience the Post 16 offer there. Year 10 have been excellent during the recent end of year exams and do need to be thinking about what they might do after Year 11 – a year that will go very quickly.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Waller  
Headteacher