

3 October 2016

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

A very warm welcome to you all at the start of this new academic year. We have had a busy and exciting start to the Autumn Term. Our new intake, GCSE 2021, are settling in well, engaging in their lessons and signing up for a multitude of extra-curricular activities. Thank-you to all our families, Feeder Schools and transition staff for making the start of term run so smoothly.

Our 'Class of 2016' performed very well in the summer examinations, making good progress from their starting points. They excelled themselves in a range of subjects, in particular Maths, English, Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Art, Drama, PE, Citizenship, Geography, Food and ICT. 20% of the cohort achieved at least 3 A*/A grades (for more information please see our website). We look forward to welcoming them back into school on Wednesday 16 November for our Presentation Evening.

We are continually reviewing and updating our website (www.kings.wakefield.sch.uk) and hope you will spend some time sharing our work and the wealth of activities happening in and out of school. Your feedback regarding improvements to the website would be most welcome.

Some headline events from the last few weeks include: Yr 11 BTEC Evening of Dance & Drama, WDH Cashwise Enterprise Day, European Day of Languages, MacMillan Coffee Morning, launch of our York University "Shine" partnership project for Year 7 students and our Open Evening.

DATES FOR THE DAIRY

School 6k Fun Run - Friday 14 October - You should have already received letters regarding this event.

Christmas Craft Fair - Sunday 6 November (10.00am - 3.00pm) in the School Hall.

Progress Review Day - Thursday 10 November (11.00am - 7.00pm), a letter with further information will be issued closer to the time.

NB. Just a reminder of INSET Days for this academic year when students are not required to attend school: **Monday 24 April 2017, Monday 24 July 2017 and Tuesday 25 July 2017.** We also have an additional PAT Training Day on Friday 21 October and students will not be in school on this day.

Next academic year school will re-open for staff on Monday 4 September 2017 and it is *likely, but not yet confirmed*, that school will re-open for students on Tuesday 5 September 2017. We hope this advance notice will help with your holiday planning.

Attendance and Punctuality

Whole school attendance is excellent at the moment, running above our target of 96% (currently at 98.43%) and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank parents and students for this. We hope this will continue throughout the year.

Students are being awarded Vivo points for good attendance and punctuality. These are in addition to the Vivos gained for Clean days and good work/effort in their lessons. They can then be used to purchase things from the on-line Vivo shop.

Central to the values of The King's School is a commitment to the safeguarding and protection of young people.



Uniform

Although the vast majority of our students arrive in school on time and looking very smart unfortunately, since the start of term, we have had several issues with some students not complying with the School Uniform Policy. In particular, short/tight skirts and tight trousers. We are working hard with students to address this matter and would like to thank you for your support. If there are any concerns regarding uniform please refer to the full uniform list in the student planner (pages 14 & 15) and our website.

In order to make it easier to buy school uniform, we have chosen to use the Parents Online ordering service from Price & Buckland. This company offers a wide range of benefits including photographic visuals of all items available, as well as a customer service facility to help with sizing, delivery and general enquiries. You can order the school uniform either on the School's Website or by going to pbparentsonline.co.uk/kingssschool.

On-Line Payments

We continue to offer online payments for all purchases at King's. This will enable you to pay without having to send cash into school with your child and you will be able to track payments through your account. If you wish to pay for trips, uniform, school meals and any other purchases, you can do so using online payments. If you wish to set up an online account please contact school on the above number selecting Option 4 for our Finance Team.

Catering

The cost of a standard lunch at The King's School is currently £2.00 and for this charge students can buy a cooked meal, together with a dessert, or a hot/cold grab bag, these include a pizza, chicken burger or Panini, a piece of fruit and a drink. There is a wide choice of healthy option meals available and lighter options such as salads are available in the Deli Bar.

Please take time to read through the following pack of information, sign the relevant forms and return them to your child's Form Tutor:

Emergency Plan Form - it is important for this to be signed in the event of an unexpected school closure.

Responsible Internet Use - Year 7 and students new to the school only

In order for your child to have supervised access to the internet for school work.

Extra-Curricular Timetable (Autumn Term) & Extra-Curricular Activities Consent Form

This is also available on the school website in the Student section.

Fair Processing Notices Students Aged 13+

This refers to sharing information with other agencies such as those involved in supporting students to gain access to Further Education or employment in the future. This will mainly affect Year 9 and some of Year 8 who have reached the age of 13, as Year 10 and 11 students have already received them in the past.

Our "Success for All" motto can only be achieved through working in close partnership with all our families and we thank-you for all your efforts to ensure the best education for your child/ren. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact with the relevant staff at school who will endeavour to help.

Yours sincerely



Mrs B Tibbetts
Headteacher