

Our Ref: JLE

19 October 2016

To: All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the end of a very busy half term I would like to thank you for welcoming me to George Pindar School and for your on-going support with the education of your child. Whilst my first 7 weeks have been a whirlwind, I have thoroughly enjoyed it and I know that together we have made some very positive steps along our journey of continuous improvement. I am sure that our second half term together will be equally successful and I thank you in advance for your continued support.

If your child is in Year 10 or 11 you will find enclosed the first progress update detailing their progress and attitude to learning in each subject. Dates for future reports are on the parental calendar which you received at the end of last term and which is also on the school website.

Please find detailed below information about a number of new initiatives after half term:

Breakfast Club - On Monday 31 October we will be launching our new 'GPS Breakfast Club'. This club is open to all students between 8.10 – 8.30 am Monday to Friday mornings and is completely free. Students will be provided with a slice of toast and a hot drink in the warm surroundings of Georgio's. Access to the 'GPS Breakfast Club' will be via the student entrance on Moor Lane.

Sweets - To support our students to make healthy eating choices, following the half term break, we will no longer permit sugary sweets in school. This includes "Chupa Chups" type lollipops, Maoam, Haribo and Swizzels Matlow products and any other sugar based hard, jelly or chewy sweets. Chocolate biscuits as part of a packed lunch or break time snack will be permitted although students who bring in whole packets of biscuits or family sized packs of crisps will have these confiscated. Could I also remind you that energy and fizzy drinks of any kind are not permitted and that students are permitted to drink water only during lesson time.

'Next Steps' Careers Evening - If your child is in Year 11 you will find enclosed an invitation to our 'Next Steps' Careers evening to be held on Wednesday 9 November 2016. A large number of local sixth forms, colleges, training organisations and employers have now confirmed their attendance and we very much hope you can join us for this event.

School Trips and Visits - Parental Permission - Please find enclosed a letter regarding parental permission for school trips and visits which will alleviate the necessity for 'form filling' for local events and support you to provide your child with wider educational opportunities.

Cont'd overleaf...

Winter Weather Arrangements – As the weather is definitely on the turn could you please bear the following in mind:

- Our Uniform Policy extends to outdoor coats which if worn must be worn over the School uniform, including blazer. They must be coats not fashion jackets, tracksuit tops, knitwear, cardigans, leather jackets etc (please see the full Uniform Policy on our website for further guidance).
- Please ensure that in poor weather your child is dressed appropriately for the journey to School. In particularly poor weather we would advise sending your child to School in their non-uniform clothing **and changing into their uniform when they arrive**. Wellington boots are acceptable in very poor weather (snow and torrential rain).
- Finally, we do our best never to close in poor weather but we will always err on the side of safety. Reasons why we may close – staff not able to travel in as a result of heavy snowfall, breakdowns in the heating system, inability to make the site safe in extreme weather. If the School is closed we will send a text message and notify Yorkshire Coast Radio. If we need to close during the School day, for example if we are notified that the School buses will not be able to run after a certain time, then the same procedure will be followed.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support, as always, it is much appreciated. Together we can make a positive difference to the future of our young people.

Yours faithfully



Julian Leader
Headteacher

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