

Our Ref: JLE

13 December 2016

To: All Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

As the festive season draws closer and the Autumn term comes to an end, I take this opportunity to look back at a very exciting period for George Pindar School. My first term as Headteacher has been a busy and productive one, filled with opportunities and developments which aim to further improve our school. I am immensely proud to be Headteacher of George Pindar School. George Pindar School is a great school which boasts a conscientious, capable and talented student body and a talented, hard-working and dedicated staff. Together we have the potential and ability to take our school forward in order to provide your sons and daughters with every possible opportunity to maximise their potential and be successful.

Over the last 14 weeks as a school we have continued to focus on providing your sons and daughters with the best possible teaching and learning opportunities, supporting and challenging them to make progress in their learning, building upon their strengths and intervening where improvements are still possible. We have continued to support a focus on good attendance in order to ensure that your sons and daughters are at school and so able to take advantage of the excellent learning opportunities available to them and we have worked hard to secure the foundations of good learning through developments in our behaviour management processes, fine tuning them to ensure that they have the desired impact.

An element of this fine tuning, which comes as a result of a consultation with staff, students and feedback from parents, makes a number of changes to our Classroom Behaviour Management Policy. The new Behaviour Ladder is attached and is designed to ensure that all our students are able to enjoy calm and productive lessons. The changes will take effect from the start of the new term on Wednesday 3 January.

Also enclosed with this letter you will find your child's latest half termly progress report. I hope that the story it tells is a positive one. However, if you do have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor.

In January each year the School has a statutory requirement to complete a School Census which affects funding for all our students. We know that entitlement to Free School Meals can change throughout the year. If you believe that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals please contact the School for an application form. Also, children whose parent(s) is/are service personnel serving in regular HM Forces military units of all forces and who are designated as personal category 1 or 2 are eligible for additional funding. Further information can be found at www.gov.uk.

If this is the case we would ask you to contact Debbie Simpson at the School so this can be recorded on your child's School record. From September 2016 schools are required to hold additional information regarding each student. The information is detailed on the attached sheet and I would be pleased, if you haven't already provided the school with this information, if you could complete the form and return to Debbie Simpson at the school before Friday 13 January 2017.

Fortunately from a School point of view last Winter's weather was not particularly severe. As a result we did not need to close for bad weather. However, the forecast for this Winter does not look promising and as a result it may be necessary for us to finish early or close for the day. We do not take these decisions lightly. Examples of when we would close will be staff not being able to get into the School, concern that students and staff will not be able to travel home safely or our being unable to make the site safe. However, we will try everything we can to remain open. In the event that we do have to close because of the weather then we will do all we can to ensure that you are informed. This will include notifying you by tweet, text and contacting the local radio stations. With this in mind we would appreciate you keeping all contact numbers for your child up-to-date.

Also, if your child is absent from School we would ask that you contact us via the **School's absence line - 01723 582423**. This will enable us to ensure that we are aware of your child's absence, your child has the correct register marks and that we do not contact you unnecessarily.

As you can see it has been a very busy term, but the teaching, learning, attendance and behaviour developments outlined do not tell the full story of George Pindar School. We are proud of the extra-curricular opportunities we provide, opportunities that make our school such a great school. Since September we have held a very successful Year 6 Open Evening, our 'Next Steps' careers event and our KS4 awards evening, contributed to 'Scarborough Engineering Week', raised significant amounts for both the 'Poppy Appeal' and 'Children In Need' through our charity events, our school band has supported the opening of Morrison's new store and entertained the residents of Eastfield House and we have hosted a senior citizens' Christmas party. Each of these events and activities has given our school community the opportunity to work together in order to provide that extra something which makes us so special.

To close I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Julian Leader
Headteacher

Enc

Behaviour Consequences Ladder

C1 warning = recorded on SIMS;
3 x C1's in one week = text home + 30 minute detention after school.



C2 warning = recorded on SIMS + text home + 10 min detention with the classroom teacher. Failure to attend detention = C2 rearrange, teacher to record on SIMS, 30 min detention after school.

C2 x 3 in a half term from the same teacher = Faculty Report, teacher to phone home.



3 negatives/3 C's in one week = Tutor report, tutor to phone home.



C3 relocation in Faculty = record on SIMS, letter sent home + 30 min detention after school.

3 x C3's from same staff = teacher to invite parents in for R & R meeting.

3 x C3 in one week = AL/PM report, phone home.



C4 = FLC for one full day + phone call home + the C3 30 minute detention after school.



2 x C3 in one day = FLC for one full day; PM to phone home.



**Failure to attend after school detention = 1 re-arrange
Failure to attend the re-arranged detention = exclusion**

SCHOOL CENSUS

If you have any queries regarding this information or require any assistance please contact Mrs Simpson at the school or email debbie.simpson@gps.n-yorks.sch.uk

Name of Student: _____ Year Group: _____

FIRST LANGUAGE

Pupil's First Language: _____

Please complete if your child's first language (the language a child was exposed to during early development and continues to be exposed to in the home or in the community) is **NOT** English.

COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Pupil's Country of Birth: _____

This information will record the country in which the pupil was born, as stated by the parent/guardian and/or child (in the case of a child without a parent/guardian). The country of birth would be expected to be as appears on, or as can be derived from, the pupil's birth certificate. It may also be as appears on, or as can be derived from, the passport.

NATIONALITY

Pupil's Nationality: _____

This information will record the nationality of the pupil, as stated by the parent/guardian and/or child (in the case of a child without a parent/guardian). The pupil's nationality would be expected to be as appears on, or as can be derived from, the pupil's passport or EEA (European Economic Area) identity card. For pupils with 'Multiple Nationality' (also known as 'Dual Nationality') more than one nationality may be recorded. In the unusual circumstances where a child is born outside of national boundaries eg in international water, they may be classified under the nationality of the parent or as 'Stateless'.

Please return to Mrs D Simpson at the school office by Friday 13 January 2017. Thank you for your support.

Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress. Please tell us if there are any adjustments we need to make to help you support your child, for example, letters in large font; letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone; a discussion with a school colleague of the same gender. Thank you.