



10 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been wonderful to welcome the students back to school and I am pleased that they have settled into their new year groups so quickly. Please see some information below which I am sure will be useful.

Value of the month

We teach our students to hold positive shared values deep in their hearts. In September the value of the month is respect which covers being polite, considering the feelings of others and understanding that there is value in unexpected places. A consistent message between school and home is very powerful and effective and thus please could we ask that you also discuss this value with your children at home at this time.

Word of the week

Every week we will have a different word of the week which we will be teaching the students and encouraging them to use. Please could we ask for your support in also using them at home. All the words and their meaning are in the school planners. This week's word of the week is assiduous.

Merits and awards

Your son/daughter will be collecting merits so that they can work towards their bronze, silver and gold awards. These merits are awarded when students embrace the growth mindset. This could include high levels of effort, increasing effort levels, being resilient when learning is tricky or realising that mistakes are learning opportunities.

Badges

Students will be awarded various badges during this academic year. These will predominately be for excellent participation in clubs and for embracing our values. Please look out for the first clubs badges which will be presented in the coming weeks.

Special Mentions

Every week every year group has a special mentions assembly. In these assemblies every teacher nominates a student for a special mention based on their efforts in the previous week. One copy

of the certificate is added to the form display and one copy is given to the student so that they can share their success with you.

Ready to learn cards

At the start of the term we are helping the students ensure that they are ready to learn at the start of each lesson. This includes being punctual and preparing for the start of the lesson straight away. Students are awarded with ready to learn cards for their successes in this area.

Clubs

We have numerous clubs for the students to participate in and we encourage the students to step out of their comfort zones and try something new. The clubs programme starts on Monday 10th September with the exception of the daily home learning club which has already commenced. The details about these clubs is available on our website.

Planners

Every student has a school planner in which they record their merits and badges. If they are any notes that you need to provide the school then please can I ask that these are written in the appropriate week in the planner rather than on paper. We kindly ask that Year 10 parents and carers sign these planners every week.

Equipment

Please see our website for the equipment that students will require. We require all students to write with a handwriting pen. On Wednesday we issued every student with a handwriting pen and students can purchase a replacement from student services and if they do the money will be debited from your ParentPay account.

Student services

Student services is open every day before school and at break time and commences on Monday 10th September. The services include the sale of school ties and handwriting pens and well as the storage of lost property.

Home learning

Every fortnight our Years 7, 8 and 9 students will be issued with an online home learning booklet with learning activities for each subject. The students will have a fortnight to complete each booklet and please could we ask for your support to help ensure that they complete these and that they spread the tasks over the course of the two weeks. The first booklet will be issued on

Friday 28th September and will be due Friday 12th October. We will be explaining to the students how to access and submit this prior to the 28th.

Many thanks for your positivity and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Watson
Associate Headteacher (Secondary)