

**10.07.26**

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week in Assemblies and Form Times we have been reflecting on Matthew 5:14-15

**"You are the light of the world"**

Jesus tells us, no matter what we think of ourselves, He's made us a lamp, a candle or a torch to everyone we meet. This is whether or not they are blind to God's love or simply going through dark times. So this coming week turn your light on for others, encourage them and help them to see their way and not stumble.

**Mobile Phones**

As you will be aware from the national news the Department of Education has issued a statement that all schools should be a mobile phone free environment. During the Autumn term we will be implementing a slight change to our current mobile phone policy where all pupils will be issued with a mobile phone pouch. These have been ordered but due to supply and demand we do not have an exact date for when this purchase will arrive. Further communications on how this will be implemented will be shared with parents and pupils in due course. We are aware that there will be a minority of cases where it may be necessary to amend the policy due to medical reasons and these will be dealt with on an individual case by case basis. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

**Creative Arts Expo**

A huge thank you to all of our Art, Design and Technology staff for their hard work and commitment in making the Creative Arts Expo such a successful and inspiring event. The quality, creativity and diversity of students' work on display was exceptional and showcased the talent, dedication and progress of our young people. We would also like to thank our Music and Drama staff for their outstanding production of *Romeo and Juliet*. The performance was a testament to the skill, confidence and enthusiasm of our students, and reflected the countless hours of preparation, rehearsal and support provided by staff. Both events were wonderful celebrations of creativity and achievement and a credit to everyone involved.

**National Schools Sports Week**

Pupils have enjoyed celebrating National School Sports Week by taking part in a variety of sports, including darts, table tennis, gymnastics, ultimate frisbee and tennis. The week began with pupils wearing their Football shirts or PE kits to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. We are delighted that £300 was raised for the British Heart Foundation through our National School Sports Week PE Uniform Day. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the enthusiasm and generosity of our school community. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the PE Department for their hard work and commitment in organising a range of engaging activities throughout National School Sports Week, providing students with valuable opportunities to participate, challenge themselves and celebrate the importance of physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

We are now looking forward to our annual Sports Day (Gabs Games) on **Monday 20th July**. Pupils will represent their forms in traditional athletics events during the morning before coming together in the afternoon for whole year group activities, including dodgeball, bench ball, cricket, football and rounders. We hope it will be a fantastic day of fun, teamwork and where we can celebrate lots of successes.

**Blackpool Trip**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July - Trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach**

Next Friday, we are looking forward to celebrating our annual rewards trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Those attending the trip can wear non-uniform, but please make it appropriate clothing and footwear (no crop tops, inappropriately short shorts, sandals or open toed shoes), with pupils wearing sun cream as it is likely to be sunny. Pupils should be on site **before 8:30am** so that we can get on coaches and leave as soon as possible, which will give everyone as much time on the park as possible. Blackpool Pleasure Beach is a cashless venue, so if pupils bring cash

with them, they will need to load it on to a pre-paid card at guest services when we arrive. Coaches are expected to arrive back to school at approximately 17:15, traffic dependent. You will be updated via the school office if we are delayed. Please do not park in the turning circle by school if you are picking your child(ren) up as this blocks the coaches from safely turning around and creates an unnecessary hazard for our pupils.

For pupils who are staying in school, they are asked to arrive to school before 08:40 in their school PE Kit and PE Trainers (No fashion trainers). The school day will follow normal timings, more details of the day will be given to pupils next week.

### **Summer Term Reports**

Parents are encouraged to read their child's school report carefully, as it provides valuable information about their progress. Discussing the report with your child can help celebrate success and support their learning journey. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of the report, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance via the school office.

Year 10: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July via the Arbor App.

KS3: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July via the Arbor App.

### **Last Day Arrangements**

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July students may wear their own clothes as it is the Last Day

- Form time, lesson 1 and lesson 2 as normal.
- Extended break 11.10 - 11.40am.
- 11.40-12.30pm pupils go to form
- 12.30pm students will be dismissed Year Group at a time.

### **Start of Term Arrangements**

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 Students on Thursday 3rd September at 8.40am, they should go straight to the John Banks Building.

Year 11 will also start back on Thursday 3rd September at 8.40am they should go straight to their Form Rooms.

Both **Year 7 and Year 11** will have their Individual School Photographs taken on this first day back.

Year 8,9 and 10 will start the new term on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 8.40am.

As we prepare for the new term, we would like to remind all students of the importance of arriving at school fully equipped and ready to learn. In addition to meeting our uniform expectations, students should bring a complete pencil case containing the essential equipment required for lessons, including pens, pencils, a ruler, a rubber and any other subject-specific resources. Being well prepared supports effective learning, promotes independence and ensures that students can fully engage with every lesson from the start of the day.

### **School Uniform**

Due to the weather forecast for next week students will be allowed to wear full PE with PE trainers (not fashion trainers) or school uniform without a tie or blazer.

Kind regards,



**Mrs Middleton & The SLT Team**