



17th September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you so much for your support in enabling such a positive start to the school year. I already feel very proud to be Head of this wonderful school, and would like to thank the staff, students and school community for making me feel so welcome. Our new starters in Year 7 and our other year groups have settled in very well, and our older students are being excellent role models in their focus on learning and conduct around school. I would like to welcome new parents to the Alderman White community, as well as our new staff – Mr J Allsopp (History), Mr J Barker (English), Miss C Leyland (Science), Mr R Chapman (Maths), Mrs N Sharma (Temporary Teacher of English) as well as Mr R Subbarao who has joined us from Bramcote College. Miss E Brown has also joined our support team.

Summer Success

The Alderman White Class of 2018 yet again surpassed expectations with a stunning set of exam results. 66% of students achieved a Grade 4 or above in both English and Maths, with 48% achieving a 5 or above, both above the national average. 21% of all results were grade 7-9, and one of our students was among the 732 nationally who achieved Grade 9s across the board. Well done to the Alderman White class of 2018!

School Routines

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter arrives at school on time by 8.45am, in full uniform, and with the equipment they need. Establishing these routines is important in developing good learner habits and employability skills for the future. Our website contains the details of these expectations, although sometimes clarification is required as fashions change. Please can I take this opportunity to clarify that socks should be ankle rather than trainer socks, and plain black, as stated on the school website. School trousers should be standard style and length, not cropped.

If your son or daughter cycles to school please talk to them about the importance of cycling safely, and ensure that their bike is roadworthy. We strongly advise that any student cycling to school wears a helmet and reflective clothing. We will be developing a cycling to school policy this term and launching this with students and parents.

Coming up this term

As usual we have an incredible range of activities and events taking place this term. We are looking forward to welcoming our German exchange visitors on 19th September, and this will be followed by the WHP Trust trips to Madrid in October and Cologne in November, the Year 7 trip to Walesby in October, a Year 8 trip to the Space Centre, as well as rehearsals for the Christmas production of Romeo and Juliet and the Christmas Concert. We also look forward to hearing about our 6th form trip to China. Our programme of weekly extra-curricular activities will be published shortly, and we would like to challenge every student to take part in at least one activity.

Keeping in touch

We want to ensure that you feel fully informed about events at school and your son/daughter's progress. Please keep in touch by:

- *Looking at our website, join our facebook page and follow our twitter feed for essential information and school news*
- *Subscribing to the weekly White Hills Park Trust newsletter – you can do this on our website*



- *Downloading our My ED app – see the website for details*
- *Logging on to Go for Schools to get current information about your son/daughter's progress at school – please contact the school for details if your son/daughter is in Year 8-11; these will be provided shortly to year 7 parents and new starters*
- *Phoning or emailing school if you would like a member of staff to email you or to arrange an appointment*

Getting involved

We are very lucky to have an active Parent Teacher Association and Parent Forum, but these depend on your involvement and are always keen to welcome new members. The PTA would like to invite you to attend their Welcome Evening on Thursday 11th October at 6.30pm in the Meeting Room near reception. Our Parent Forum is an opportunity to meet senior staff, provide feedback and ask questions. All parents are welcome to attend or to suggest agenda items. Our next Parent Forum is on Thursday 25th October from 6.30 – 7.30pm.

I am very keen to hear the views of students, parents and staff about the strengths of Alderman White and how we can make the school even better! During this half term there will be an opportunity to complete a short parent survey and I would like as many parents as possible to take part – further details to follow.

Please make sure that anyone you know with a child in Year 5 or 6 who lives locally has received an invitation to our **Year 5 and 6 Open Evening on Thursday 20th September 6.30 - 8.30pm**. There are further details on our website and facebook page. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to hear about what we do and can offer their child.

Dates for your diary

Please find attached a list of key dates and events this year on the Alderman White School site. Our school calendar is kept updated on our website, and this is where you can find more detailed information.

I look forward to meeting you at our various school events. If you would like to come and meet me informally for a cup of tea and walk around the school, please contact school reception to book onto one of our **Meet the New Head** events – Monday 24th September at 11.15am, Tuesday 25th September at 5.00pm or Thursday 27th September at 2.00pm.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Mellors
Head of School