

20th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for your support this term. It has been great to see so many of you at our school events and activities and to hear so much positive feedback – as well as your suggestions about how we can continue to move the school forward.

We have had a very busy but enjoyable end of term. It has been great to see the leadership shown by our students with the Year 10 Business Studies group running the Christmas Market, School Council running our mock election, and Senior Students organising and running the Year 7 Christmas Party. This is an important time of year to focus on our Nurture value, with many students contributing to our PTA Community Christmas Afternoon Tea and our Year 9 students doing an excellent job of helping our local partner charity Operation Orphan by sorting donations from their warehouse – they sorted over 200 boxes and demonstrated some impressive clothes folding skills! Highlights have included the stunning production of A Midsummer Night's Dream involving over 50 students from year 7-11, and our Christmas Carol Concert at the Methodist Church and Swing Band concert. At the same time, students have been working hard in lessons with Progress exams Year 11, Year 10 (Maths) and Year 9 (Humanities and Drama) and many termly assessments. A big thank you to staff, students and parents who took part and helped these events and activities to be so successful. We are ending the term with a festive non-uniform day to raise money for the Attenborough Nature Reserve Lifeline Appeal.

Staff Changes:

Today we are saying goodbye and thank you to Miss Howard, who is off to teach in New Zealand, and Miss Francis who is retiring. I know both of them are leaving with many fond memories of their time at Alderman White. We will miss them both and greatly appreciate the contribution they have made during their time at the school. We also wish Mrs Shiers and Mrs Arnold well as they will both be starting maternity leave in January.

I am delighted to announce that Mr Allsopp will be Year 10 Progress Leader from January. We will also be welcoming Mr Maxwell in English, Mrs Whittaker in Maths and Miss Ferris in Social Sciences at the start of term. Mrs Armitage-Giles will be starting her maternity leave a few weeks into next term and we will welcome Ms Hooley in Performing Arts who will be covering her maternity leave.

Tutor Group Changes:

From January the following groups will have new tutors:

7ARN - Mrs Ferris (Room 36)

8ALL - Mr Maxwell (Room 25)

8HOA - Mrs Whittaker (Room 6)

10SHE - Ms Burnett (Room 28)

New Year, New Start:

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on **Monday 6th January at 8.45am**. The start of a new term and a new year are always an important time to make sure that everyone is clear about our expectations, which reflect our INSPIRE values. We would very much appreciate your support with regard to ensuring that your child arrives at school in the correct uniform. Most students get this right most of the time, but there are a few areas where we need to ensure greater consistency.

- **Trousers** must be traditional school style. They should not be stretch material or tightfitting and must be full length. Socks should be ankle socks not sports socks and there should not be a gap between trousers and socks.
- **Skirts** must be knee length and not tight fitting.
- **Shoes** should be plain black. Boots or trainers may not be worn.
- **Hoodies may not be brought to school.** Students may wear an Alderman White cardigan or jumper under their blazer for added warmth.
- **Make-up** should not be visible or noticeable. Nail varnish or gel/false nails may not be worn.
- The only **jewellery** allowed is one small stud or sleeper earring in each ear lobe. Please ensure that all other piercings are removed and not brought to school. No rings, bracelets or visible necklaces should be worn. From January, any jewellery not in line with the policy will be confiscated and returned at the end of the week. Whilst these will be stored securely in an envelope labelled with the student's name, please note that we do not take any responsibility for items brought to school unnecessarily. Jewellery that must be worn as part of religious observance is permitted.

We expect all students to demonstrate responsibility and engagement in our community by ensuring that they are following uniform expectations and we appreciate your support in this.

Please ensure that your son/daughter has a suitable bag in which to carry their equipment, planner, books and homework, and a pencil case containing two or more black or blue ball point pens, a green ball point pen (for self and peer-assessment), HB pencils and an eraser, a pencil sharpener, coloured pencils/fine felt tips, a 30cm ruler and a calculator.

Mobile phones and headphones may not be seen or heard in school throughout the school day (unless agreed by the teacher for a specific learning purpose) and should be left at home, or switched off or on silent and stored in a school bag or inside pocket.

Keeping in touch:

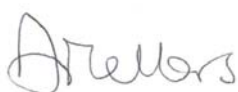
I hope that you feel well informed about your child's progress and events taking place in school. Please do ensure that we have your email address and that you are accessing the following information:

- *Go4Schools – this provides access to information about your child's progress and attitude to learning as well as homework information*
- *My Ed (an app which you can access from our website) – for access to general information including letters*
- *Our website, social media and newsletter for general information and news – see our website for details*

Please do phone or email school if you would like a member of staff to contact you to arrange an appointment.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Mellors
Head Teacher

Spring Term 1 dates for your diary:

Some key dates are below. For up to date information please see the calendar on the school website.

January	
6 th	Start of Term
8 th	Y11 Health and Social Care Exam (external)
8 th	Y10 iMedia Exam (external)
10 th	Y11 Engineering Exam (external)
13 th	Y11 Science Progress Exam
16 th	A Night at the Theatre (7.00pm)
22 nd	Y11 Reports Published on Go4Schools
22 nd	Y11 BC6F Interviews
22 nd	Y10 Poetry Live visit
23 rd	Y9 Parents/Specialism Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
29 th	China Trip 2021 Information Evening (7.00pm)
30 th	Y11 English Language Paper 1 Progress Exam
30 th	Parents Forum (6.30 -7.30pm)
February	
4 th	Y8 Hagg Farm Information Evening (6.00pm)
13 th – 25 th	German Exchange visit to Gutersloh
17 th – 21 st	Half Term Holiday
14 th	INSET DAY
24 th	Students return to school
27 th	Y10 Parents Evening