



14<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you very much again for your support this half term.

As always, we have had a busy and enjoyable half term. Year 9 have completed their specialisms choices with events including an opportunity to meet subject experts in Year 11, a very well attended Specialisms and Parents Evening, and taster lessons in new courses. Year 11 students have had a number of progress and actual exams this term, and are now preparing for their mock exams in March.

A large number of students took part in our very successful "A Night at the Theatre" production in January, with lots of student leadership in evidence. Students in Year 5-10 are now rehearsing for our production of "No Strings" in March, and the Swing Band and other musical groups are preparing for our Easter concert. Year 11 students represented the school in a visit to Poetry Live, an Apprenticeship Fair and students in Year 9 are spending half term in Gutersloh visiting their exchange partners. A real highlight of the term so far has been our continued participation and success in a range of sporting activities including our inter-form rowing competition, Year 7/8 rugby fixtures and indoor athletics events, as well as our newly formed Year 8 handball team representing Broxtowe in the Nottinghamshire Winter Games.

These events contribute to the richness of our school community and we encourage all of our students to show their engagement in our school community by getting involved. However, what is equally important is the way that our students demonstrate our school INSPIRE values every day in their lessons, around school and in our community. I spend as much time as possible each week visiting lessons and I am always impressed by the effort and engagement that I see. Integrity and nurture are the foundation of these values and I was delighted recently that a member of the public took the time to contact school to say how impressed they had been to see two of our students picking up litter on their way to school – a great example of doing the right thing when you think no-one is watching!

Thank you to the parents who attended Parent Forum this half term and who have been involved in supporting other activities and events in school. We are looking forward to seeing Year 10 parents/carers at Parents Evening on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February. After half term we will contact Year 7 parents with details about how to book appointments for Parents Evening on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Please continue to support your child in maintaining the highest possible standards of attendance and punctuality after half term. Students need to be in school unless they are too unwell. School starts with the warning bell at 8.45am and students should be on site by this time. Please make appointments outside of the school day wherever possible, and remember that a planned leave of absence can only be authorized in exceptional circumstances.

I hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing half term break, and we look forward to seeing students at 8.45am on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Mellors  
Headteacher



### **Key Events Spring 2:**

|   |                                   |
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| <b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 8.45am:</b>                      | Students return to school         |
| <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 4-6.30pm:</b>                  | Year 10 Parents Evening           |
| <b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March:</b>        | Year 11 Mock Exams                |
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March:</b>    | Year 8 Hagg Farm Visit            |
| <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March:</b>                             | Year 8 Reports published          |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March:</b>                              | PTA Fashion Show                  |
| <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March:</b>                                | Sports Relief                     |
| <b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March:</b>                              | Swing Band Trip to Halle Concert  |
| <b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 7pm:</b> | School Production of “No Strings” |
| <b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March:</b>                              | Year 7 Parents Evening            |
| <b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 7pm:</b>                            | Swing Band Concert                |
| <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April:</b>    | Paris Trip 1                      |
| <b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April:</b>                                 | Last day of term                  |
| <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April:</b>                                | Start of term                     |