



19th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to a new school year. Already the summer holidays seem like a distant memory and we are already back into the swing of lessons and school life.

School priorities are as always, the pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning. Exam results in the summer showed clear improvements over 2016, particularly in English and Maths which is excellent, especially given the new exams and specifications staff and students were working to. However, there is still plenty to do to move the school forward; I am confident both staff and students can take up the challenge.

This year we will be in particular concentrating on raising our expectations of the students' learning behaviours. Attitudes for learning are clearly explained in their planners and on the walls of every classroom, and we will be working on making sure students can recognise and demonstrate excellent learning and behaviour around school and in every lesson. We are expecting students to take responsibility for their own learning, and in the process discover how satisfying effective learning can be!

We have reaffirmed our shared values as a school and reminded students of our goals - not only to produce good exam results, but also to learn how to grow into well rounded, good humoured, confident young people who can take their place in society. I am delighted to report that all of last year's Year 11 have gone on to further or higher education, or into apprenticeships and training, which is excellent news.

A couple of dates for your diary. I would like to remind you that the Awards Evening this year is to be held on Tuesday 14th November; I look forward to welcoming you to the school to celebrate our students' success. Please be aware that our Open Evening is on Thursday 5th October. Though the evening is aimed at prospective parents of Y6 students, please feel welcome to come and have a look around school to see what the students are doing, and meet with staff and myself.

I am very much looking forward to a successful and exciting year. Do not hesitate to contact me at school with any queries or concerns; I am always pleased to meet and talk with parents, and working together towards our shared goal of your children achieving their potential relies on effective and positive communication. Please contact the office to make an appointment if you would like a chat, or just pop in - if I can see you I will, or arrange to do so at the first available opportunity.

With warmest best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Judith Schafer
Headteacher