

17th May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I thought I would take the opportunity to write to you at this point of the summer term to provide you with some important information, given that our summer edition of the newsletter will not reach you until August.

Summer uniform

As we approach the summer, I would like to remind parents/carers of our uniform policy. Having checked the weather forecast for the coming couple of weeks, the peak temperatures will only be around 17 degrees therefore I do not intend to introduce the summer uniform until after half term.

As always we will ensure that students can remove their blazers or jumpers should they need to once the summer uniform policy is implemented, to ensure they remain comfortable and attentive throughout the school day as the weather gets warmer.

Therefore until June students are expected to be bringing both their jumper and blazer to school. Please also note that hoodies are not acceptable in school and will be confiscated if worn on site. I would like to also remind you that ID badges are now part of our uniform and should be worn each day.

Students are also expected to continue wearing their school tie at all times.

Should the forecast change at all over the coming days I will review this decision and let you know.

Could I also ask parents/carers to ensure that students bring the equipment required each day. This includes their planner, pencil case, pen, pencil, eraser, calculator and ruler. Your support on this would be much appreciated.

ParentPay

We are encouraging all parents/carers to activate their ParentPay account as this is now the school's preferred method of payment for trips. Should you wish to continue to pay by cash, this can be done via the PayPoint network at local convenience stores. Please contact the finance office extension 106/107 for additional information.

If you haven't already activated your ParentPay account and require your log in details, please contact the finance office.

Examinations

With the summer comes our students very important GCSE and A' Level examinations. For parents/carers of Year 11, 12 & 13 students, please encourage your child to ensure they attend all the revision opportunities afforded to them, whether it is the breakfast revision sessions, lunchtime or period 6 during the week. Please also look out for the half term revision timetable.

I am sure that you will all join with me in wishing all our students the very best of luck for their forthcoming examinations.

Withdrawal of the 775 bus service with effect from September 2018

We have made the difficult decision to withdraw the subsidised 775 West Midlands bus service with effect from the new school year. With the cost of the service set to increase substantially and with little take up in school of our reduced cost bus passes, we find ourselves with no alternative but to take this action.

We are assured by the bus companies that there are a number of alternative buses that students can utilise and you will recently have received a leaflet entitled "Getting to school is better by bus", a copy of which is available on our school website. This provides details of the buses running to and from Phoenix from Wednesbury and West Bromwich bus stations.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully



Mike Smith
Head teacher