

7th October 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

As we are now a month into the school year, I thought it would be good to share with you a number of things which we are working on this year and remind you of some important information.

Key dates

- Year 11 Pre-public exams will start on Monday 21st October. Year 11 students and Year 12 resit students should be preparing for these crucial examinations.
- Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 Settling in evening will be on Thursday 24th October (5.00-7.00pm) for you to meet the tutors and discuss the start your son/daughter has made on their new courses.
- KS5 open evening will be on Thursday 14th November (5.30-7.30pm).
- Year 11 Parents evening will be on Thursday 28th November (4.00-7.00pm). Come and collect the pre-public examination results with your son/daughter and then discuss with their teachers the next steps to improve.

LPPA (Leading Parent Partnership Award)

Back in 2014, we worked on achieving this award to recognise the good work that we do as a school with our parents/carers and local community.

Six years is a long time in the lifetime of a school and since taking on the leadership in 2018, it is certainly an area I feel needs quality assuring once again. Please keep a look out for ways in which parents can contribute and feedback at various events within school.

Parents Forum

As part of my strategy to develop greater feedback from our parents/carers, last year I started a parents' forum which meets once every half term over a cup of coffee to discuss a hot topic for parents/carers. Last year we discussed the curriculum, options at Year 10 and our reporting system. Our first meeting of the new school year will be on **Tuesday 22nd October at 9.30am** and will include a short tour of the new school.

Please contact my PA Celine Motard at the school should you wish to participate in the parent forum.

Keeping our children safe

Following my previous letter at the start of the term, could I remind parents/carers not to use the pedestrian area either before or at the end of the school day. Please note that vehicle access to and from the school site using the Clarks Lane entrance is only available before 8.15am, between 9.00am and 2.45pm and after 3.30pm. Please help ensure our students are safe on site by adhering to this.

This area is not a drop off zone. Could parents/carers also remind their children not to use the staff car park as an entrance to school. Thank you

Extra curriculum offer

Parents/carers are able to find the autumn term extra curriculum offer on the school website.

We will update this document throughout the year as the offer changes. Please remember that days of events such as sports matches may vary as we have to work with other schools in running or taking part in these events.

Parent Governor vacancy

Following a successful term of office, one of our parent governors has sadly had to relinquish his position following a promotion at work.

My thanks goes to Mr Don Robertson for his support to the school over recent years.

This means that we now have one **vacancy for the role of parent governor** on our friendly Phoenix Governing Body so an election is needed to fill this vacant post.

Parents interested in becoming a governor should complete the enclosed self-nomination form and return this to the school office by **3.00 pm Friday 18th October** in a sealed envelope addressed to the clerk to governors and marked 'Parent governor nomination'. In addition, you should include a brief statement in support of your application, which will be circulated to all parents/carers and placed on our website, should there be a need for an election. This statement must not exceed 350 words.

Young carers

At Phoenix, we pride ourselves on being able to help all students succeed. At times though, some students due to being a young carer find this difficult. A Young Carer is someone under the age of 18 who is responsible for helping an adult in their family who has an illness (mental or physical) or disability that means they need a little extra help during their day-to-day life. This may mean anything from; taking the rubbish out due to not being able to manage the heavy lifting and reminding a parent or family member to take pills to cooking dinner and looking after siblings.

To support our Young Carers, we have a Young Carers@Phoenix group. They are supported through school to ensure that they can access the full curriculum and get the most out of their learning.

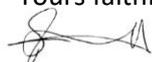
If you feel your child is in a similar position to this, please contact either your child's house team or Mrs L. Atkinson, our Young Carer lead within school.

Positive Phoenix

At Phoenix, we believe everyone deserves to know when they are doing a good job! Please take a few minutes to let us know how someone from Phoenix has made a difference to you, your child or the community by being inspiring, a great leader, creative, professional, responsive or going the extra mile.

You can nominate one of our colleagues by visiting our school website and click on 'contact us' -> 'Positive Phoenix'.

Yours faithfully,



Mike Smith

Head teacher

PARENT GOVERNOR SELF NOMINATION



I wish to nominate myself for the post of Parent Governor. I am a parent/carer* of a child currently at the school and enclose a brief statement (no more than 350 words) that I agree to being published should there be a need for an election.

Name..... Child name and form.....

Signed..... Date

Please return along with your statement to school office for the clerk to governors by **3.00pm on Friday 18th October.**

**Delete as appropriate*