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Dear Parent/Carer

Sharing Successes

We are almost at the end of term! The Newsletter for this final half-term has once again been put together by Mr Hill and is available to view on our website or by clicking here:

http://www.budmouth.dorset.sch.uk/information/downloads/latest_news/newsletter_sept_oct_2019.pdf

There are some lovely photos of our students in action on a number of fronts. It's been really pleasing to see lots of updates on our social media pages about the achievements of our students (in school and out) and if we miss anything please do let us know so we can share any good news.

End of term/start of term: final reminder!

- The last day of term is on Tuesday 23rd July and we finish at 12.30pm.
- The first day of term in September for our new Year 7 is Wednesday 4th September.
- Year 12 are registering on Wednesday 4th September.
- All 6th Form lessons start on Monday 9th September.
- The first day of term for all other students is Thursday 5th September.
- The new timings of the school day in 2019 are 8.40am- 3.15pm.

Exam Results

As we head into the summer break, spare a thought for those students who are waiting for those all-important exam results. A Level Results Day is on **Thursday 15th August, 2019** and students can collect their results **from 9.30am** in The Hub (top floor). GCSE Results Day is on **Thursday 22nd August, 2019** and students can collect their results from **9.30am** in the Hub (top floor).

Thank you

On 8th July, I wrote to you with the very sad news of the tragic death of former Budmouth student, Toby Hudson. We have received some very kind words and messages of support for Toby's family that came in following this news. I know that this has been appreciated by the family. Thank you.

New Uniform

The fitting and collection of the new uniform has taken place on Thursday and Friday of this week. 'Mop-up' days for anyone who was absent on their allocated day are: Thursday 22nd August (10am-2pm) and Monday 2nd September (9am-12 noon). The Brigade staff who have been doing the fittings have been very complimentary about our students' conduct and manners during the process, this was lovely to hear. The students have clearly enjoyed trying on their new uniform and look very smart! Some of them have wanted to wear them for the final days of term but we have informed them they must wait until September.

They have already run short of 30" blazers and, at the time of writing, are running short of age 11-13 polo shirts. These will be available to collect on 22nd August, 2nd September or the students can collect them on their first day back in September.

With regards to ordering new items, Brigade do a free delivery to schools twice per month. This is the best way to order things, rather than pay extra for home delivery. Please rest assured that if students are ever waiting for orders to be delivered, they would certainly not be penalised for not having the right uniform.

With regards to shoes, to help with the questions we have been asked, we have placed some images to help show visually the acceptable/non acceptable shoes, please see the link:
http://www.budmouth.dorset.sch.uk/information/downloads/suitable_shoes.pdf.

The final point on uniform/equipment that I would like to clarify is that there is **no restriction on the colour of bags**. School bags need to be fit for purpose and capable of carrying all necessary equipment PE kit, folders and books e.g. handbags are not appropriate.

Recycling

We have been doing our best to investigate ways that any old items of uniform could be recycled or re-used. Initially, we had hoped to use a recycling company who would be able to exchange items and, in turn, raise some money for a charity of our students choosing. However, none of the providers who offer this service will deal with school uniform. We therefore investigated donating uniform to two providers who help send old uniform to Africa where it is re-used. We have been unable to proceed with this as they do not collect and we would have to deliver to either Wales, Birmingham or Milton Keynes ourselves and we do not have the capacity to do this. If we do manage to have any success with this, we will let you know.

Induction Days

We enjoyed meeting our new year 7 intake on Tuesday 9th July. They seemed like a lovely year group and they made a good impression on our staff and older students who worked with them. Our new teachers have also been in for their own induction process and we look forward to welcoming them in September. It is pleasing to be ending the year fully staffed and we have made some excellent new appointments.

Converting to Academy Status

Things are very busy behind the scenes with regards to the conversion of Budmouth College. I would like to acknowledge a lot of hard work that has been taking place by members of teaching staff, support staff, the Interim Executive Board and senior staff at Dorset Council to ensure that we have a smooth transfer for 1st September. All things are now set to this effect. The term of office for our IEB ends on 31st August and I would like to pay tribute to the amount of work that this small, but very dedicated group of people have contributed to the college since they took responsibility for governance last year, under the committed leadership of Chair, Kate Shaw

'SIMS Parent'

We are aware that a number of parents have successfully downloaded the SIMS parent 'app' to a smartphone or tablet device. At the moment you are only able to use it to check that your contact details and information are correct. When the new academic year begins in September it will then enable you to access other information about your child in school e.g. attendance, homework set and achievement points. If you don't use the 'app' you will also be able to access the same information via the SIMS desktop site www.sims-parent.co.uk and we will send you further information in September about how to access this. Regardless of which way you access the system, the information will be the same and it is known as 'SIMS Parent'. This is not the same as the 'InTouch' contact system that we now use to send letters. To receive letters from us you need to ensure we have your current and accurate email address.

And finally

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the college during what has been an interesting and, at times, challenging year. September will clearly mark the start of a new era at Budmouth as we officially become a member of the Aspirations Academy Trust. We are going to embrace a fresh start, but are also mindful of retaining all of the best bits of Budmouth and our own unique identity. I look forward to your continued support as we do this and would like to take this opportunity of wishing you and our students a lovely summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



David Herbert