

22nd July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. After a very hot week at school we all have our fingers crossed that the summer holiday is blessed with good weather, albeit a touch cooler than this week! For ease of use, this letter is in electronic form on our website where internet links can be accessed on-line.

Safeguarding

If you need support over the Summer regarding concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, please read the information enclosed in this link: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/worried-about-a-child>

And if you need further information regarding support, Mr Midworth (our Designated Safeguarding Lead) will check his emails during the Summer holidays: pmidworth@budmouth-aspirations.org

In addition, Whisper will also allow students to keep reporting any concerns anonymously over the summer period. <https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/baw1/>

Calendar 2022/23

We have already shared the term dates for next year with you and the link below is another reminder of our final term dates for the next academic year:

<https://budmouth.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2022/06/Term-dates-2022-23.pdf>

Return to School in September

Nothing it seems is guaranteed although we do look forward to the start of the Autumn term free from the disruptive impact of COVID. As a contingency against any possible delay to our Sixth Form build, we have already created a 'PLAN B' timetable to ensure that any potential disruption to normal school life is minimised should this occur. A reminder also that Years 7, 12 and 13 students will return on Friday the 2nd September with Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 students joining us on Monday 5th September.

Site Work

Students are reminded that they should not be coming onto the school site over the summer holidays other than on Results' Day. During the summer break, our Site Team will be busy getting ready for the new school year and as already communicated, the work on the Sixth Form Centre (extension and renovation to the current building) will be taking place throughout the holiday.

Achievement Points

When the School Cup is awarded, Achievement Points will, no doubt, play a significant role in deciding the winners. These results are combined with events like Sports Day, Arts Cups, Inter School Competitions and Extra-Curricular Awards to decide who the winning school is overall. In 2021-22, the scores on the doors with respect to achievement points alone were as follows:

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Overall Winners | Hawking 102,735 | Shelley 97,844 | Turing 94,423 | Attenborough 94,081 |
| Year 7 | Hawking 30,956 | Shelley 25,664 | Turing 23,311 | Attenborough 21,559 |
| Year 8 | Hawking 33,781 | Turing 25,144 | Attenborough 24,661 | Shelley 20,895 |
| Year 9 | Shelley 24,268 | Turing 18,047 | Hawking 17,662 | Attenborough 16,120 |
| Year 10 | Attenborough 23,727 | Turing 16,898 | Shelley 14,852 | Hawking 14,388 |
| Year 11 | Shelley 12,165 | Turing 11,023 | Attenborough 8014 | Hawking 5948 |

The hard-work and participation of our students this year has been amazing and as a result, the number of achievement points being handed out by teachers has been staggering. The following students are the highest individual point winners in their respective year group:

- Year 7 - Tesni Campbell A7-RCJ
- Year 8 - Esmee Carr S8-CMC
- Year 9 - Freya Cartwright T9-AKB
- Year 10 - Isla Clark S10-ESS
- Year 11 - Ben Saunders S11-TJJ

The Edge

In September 2021 we introduced the full Aspirations' Edge Programme and I am delighted to say that it has been a fantastic success. The aim of the programme is to encourage and inspire our students to engage in activities that will develop self-worth and purpose. In this year alone, 180 students have completed at least one level of the programme which is a phenomenal achievement.

Director of Student Engagement and Leadership, Andy David said; "What our students have achieved this year has surpassed my expectations and I am absolutely delighted with the impact that the programme has had. I am proud to work at an academy that genuinely recognises and rewards everything that a child does and not just the academic achievements." At Budmouth we know that if a child has self-worth, engages in purposeful activities and has a sense of purpose then they are far more likely to lead a happy and successful life. A huge well done to everyone that has completed a programme level this year!

Celebration of Achievement and Extracurricular activities

This week our four 'Schools' have been holding their end of term celebration of achievement assemblies and the school awards. Please join me in thanking all of the children and staff who have participated in a competition, club, event, group, field trip or celebration of achievement this year. As a team we have worked incredibly hard on celebrating the success of our students and huge thanks go to you as parents who have been emailing us all year with stories of Success outside of school.

One glance at our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/BudmouthAcademy/> will tell you all you need to know about our students and our ethos. Life here at Budmouth is about so much more than lessons and qualifications. Please join us by 'liking' the page; it is by far the busiest school page in Dorset! We pride ourselves on having celebrated the success of hundreds of students, every day and over the last 10 months.

At the end of term, we also issue six very special awards, three each for both pupils and staff, that celebrate a special contribution to the Academy for Self-Worth, Engagement and Purpose: These are very special awards that only go to those who have gone that extra mile for others.

Student winners this year are;

- For **Purpose**, Esme Carr in Shelley School.
- For **Self-Worth** Naira Mutagirova in Hawking.
- For **Engagement** Ollie Frowd in Attenborough

Huge congratulations to you all!

The Performing Arts department has already been busy auditioning students for main parts in the production of '**We Will Rock You**'. All students are welcome to be in the chorus for this exciting school production, and rehearsals will begin in September. Performances will be open to the public on the 6th, 7th and 8th of December and further information will be sent out to parents in the Autumn Term. If you have any questions, or would like to contribute in some way then please get in contact with Shelley Trott: strott@budmouth-aspirations.org

Uniform

If you are anything like me, the one aspect of the summer holidays that you will not be looking forward to as a parent is the '*Back to School*' shop! During this year, we have shared many messages reinforcing the need for students to follow our Uniform Policy in full (including specific aspects linked to jewellery and haircuts) and for your information, the link to the full policy is available below:

<https://budmouth.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2022/06/Uniform-Policy-2022.pdf>

I would strongly advise everyone to check this policy before making purchases or allowing piercings to be made. A reminder that our pastoral team keeps a stock of clean ties, new socks, new shirts and shoes that we can loan to students when they have a significant short term and unavoidable issue. We also have a stock of cleaned but used uniform items and we can provide these on request for free. Please continue to donate your old uniform and School Prom items. These have been of great value to us so thank you.

This year we have felt increasingly proud of our students' appearance in comparison to other schools. Visitors to the school regularly comment on how smart our students look. Let's continue to work together to keep it that way and ensure that the students make a good impression, not just in school but also on the journey to and from school. It reflects well on them all in the long run. Changes for September have been put in place to help save money and they include the choice to wear a black school V neck jumper that does not have the school logo on it. This must be **plain** and of similar texture to the school jumper and not be made of **sweatshirt material**. We also now allow plain black leggings and shorts in PE. These are more widely available and therefore potentially cheaper.

Staffing Updates

We will provide a warm welcome to new staff joining the academy in September and also say some fond farewells to those moving on at the end of term. In addition, many staff within the school will take up new, exciting roles within the Academy.

We first welcome Joanne Gillespie who will be supporting Sam Temple as the new SSI on our fantastic CCF programme. Joanne takes over from Chris Dooley who has done a brilliant job in helping to build a strong student base especially in the Navy section. Thank you Chris!

Mark Henman will be retiring from the Director of Sixth Form role and he will remain here teaching Geography. The Sixth Form owes its success to Mark and his team and he will be long remembered for his knowledgeable and positive leadership by the thousands of students he has helped guide on their journey from school into university and employment. Sam Morris will take Mark's place on the Leadership Team as Director of Sixth Form, Richard Bullock will become the new Head of PE and Deputy Head of Turing School and Louise Bugler will become his second in command within PE.

The PE department will therefore welcome three new teachers. Rory Legg, who worked here on his teaching practice; George Nicholls, also a newly qualified teacher and David Steele, who will also teach Maths. Luke De La Haye also has a new role, he will be joining the Hawking pastoral team as their Behaviour and Ethos Coordinator. Ellie Sandrey will be

joining our PE friends at Atlantic Academy. Ellie will be missed by the staff and pupils alike, in particular, for her boundless optimism and enthusiasm. We look forward to staying in touch with her as her career progresses.

Andrea Miller will be leaving after 11 years of dedicated and valued service. In English, where she excelled as a specialist of considerable skill, she will be replaced by Tabitha Baker. Tabitha used to work here as a Teaching Assistant before qualifying as a teacher this year. Pete Davison will replace Andrea in the Sixth Form team, as the leader of Student Experience and Mark Williams, also an English teacher, will now be leading our Whole School Literacy Programme.

In Humanities we wish a fond farewell to David Eames and in Maths a genuine goodbye to Peter Scott. Both are off to work outside of teaching and we wish them all the best in their new careers. David will be replaced in History by Holly Beresford and we welcome Nikki Davidson back to Maths to take over from Stuart Dennis who is leaving us for Wey Valley School. We wish Stuart all the best with a fresh challenge across town. Transferring the other way is Stephen Richards, the current Wey Valley Head of Humanities. He will be joining us in Martin Pick's team as a Geography teacher. We also say goodbye to Anna Barrett who has deservedly been promoted to Head of Business Studies at Clayesmore school.

In Technology there will also be some key changes. We will sorely miss Rene Lawson. Rene has worked here for 21 years and has been an integral part of the Academy, not just in the classroom but as a key player on ski trips, water sports visits and sports day, where his dancing has become the stuff of legends. Rene is off to pursue his career as a tattooist and he has certainly left an indelible mark on our school community. There will be a new Director of Technology, Paul Norman, who will support Hawking School as Deputy. However, pupils need not panic, Tony Walker remains with us for the duration. Many students will be disappointed to hear that Christie White will be leaving us for travels abroad, and we wish her bon-voyage, as we welcome two new staff, Adam Symes and Lorraine Milligan to the Technology department.

There are also two big changes to the Leadership Team. Andy Clark will be joining Magna, an Aspirations Academy in Poole, as their new Vice Principal. Andy has been instrumental in supporting the successful changes we have seen here at Budmouth in recent years and has been a valued member of the Geography team where he has shown himself to be an outstanding teacher for many years. We wish him our very best and we will of course stay in close touch. Sally Emms will join the Leadership Team as a new Vice Principal. Sally, who is currently an Assistant Headteacher at Ferndown Upper School, will lead our strategy on both Attendance and Personal Development. Pete Pring will be joining the Academy's Leadership Team and he will take over Andy's key role as Head of Turing School in an exciting time for him and all of the students in his care.

Jane Taylor joined the school on September 1st 2002. In this, her 20th year, Jane will be retiring to become a lady of leisure. Jane has been a dedicated and caring Pastoral Support Leader and she has changed the lives of countless young people. Without her, some would not have gone on to become the successes they are. In many ways Jane is irreplaceable, but doing his very best to fill those large (and both numerous and expensive) shoes is Mitchell Fox, who will be supporting Attenborough School in this pivotal role. We will never forget Jane and owe her a debt of gratitude for all she has done at Budmouth.

And finally...

This is my first end of year letter as Principal and it has been with genuine pride that I reflect on the last year. The way the students and staff have thrown themselves into the broader life of the academy has been superb and we have wasted no time in getting back to normal after COVID. Teachers, teaching assistants and support staff have all played a key role alongside the students in developing a genuine sense of belonging and team work. We do not always get things right as a school, no school does and especially not one as large and diverse as our own however we work tirelessly to support children both socially and in their education.

It is also with sadness that we remember Luke Bartlett who passed away in April. Luke epitomised a tireless approach to supporting young people, an approach that so many have here at Budmouth. We now look forward to welcoming Luke's family to the opening of the Luke Bartlett Memorial Garden in the Autumn term. There was a poignant moment of reflection at the end of our Year 13s' Leavers' Assembly in June, when over 200 balloons in the colours of the rainbow were released in Luke's memory. The release was organised by Sixth Form student Nakeesha Needham, who had

been inspired by the poem, 'Look for me in Rainbows.' The poem was read by Sophie Ives before the biodegradable balloons were released by Nakeesha and Mark Henman. It was a touching and memorable goodbye for Luke.

Finally, I must thank you all for your continued support of everything that we do. Parents have been in regular contact all year and our Friends and Associates of Budmouth (FAB) team has helped us make some genuine changes this year, for example to uniform, the return of year group photos and changes to our rewards systems. I would like to wish all parents, students and community supporters a lovely summer holiday, and for those students in Years 11 and 13, we wish you the very best of luck with the forthcoming exam results.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Hoffmann', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Hoffmann
Principal