

9th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new academic year. I am of course writing to you on a very sad day, as the nation mourns the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. We have marked this historic event this morning during tutor time with some activities and discussion related to her reign and her death. Should national events later impact upon any aspect of schooling, we will of course keep you informed. Today we will commemorate the passing of a dedicated and much-loved public servant.

I hope you are well and wish to thank you for your support last year. I am often quoted in saying that we work incredibly hard to help every young person in our care and although we don't get everything right, we remain steadfast in trying to do so. Young people are complex and face many challenges and we continue to help and support each and every one. In particular, the challenge of the energy crisis will have no doubt been felt by many families in our community. Please get in contact with us if you feel your child needs additional support at this difficult time.

The students have arrived back looking incredibly smart and I would like to thank you for supporting the Uniform Policy. We have seen improved appearance with many aspects of the uniform that parents still choose, such as shoes, shorts, skirts and trousers. This is absolutely fantastic so thank you very much indeed. Can I please also remind you that earrings are limited to two studs and that nose-rings/studs are not acceptable under any circumstances. Socks must be black and plain, without a logo.

This week we have seen the return of our first inter-school competition, the much lauded 'Tug of War.' Students from all age groups took part and the event saw Hawking School reign supreme. Congratulations go to all who took part.

As a reminder, we have also reserved the central Hub Café area exclusively for those Year 7s who prefer a quiet lunchtime. Likewise, the Student Support Centre and the Resources Centre can be accessed by any student at lunch and break should they wish to spend time away from the hustle and bustle of lunchtime and morning break.

In the upper school it was great to welcome back so many of our outgoing Year 11 students and induct them as 'Sixth Formers'. It was good to see them welcoming the new students who have joined us from Sir John Colfox, The Thomas Hardy School, All Saints, Atlantic Academy and Wey Valley.

Budmouth will be hosting Open Evenings on the 28th and 29th of September starting at 6pm. Traditionally this event is for our prospective Year 6 students. This year we would also like to invite parents in other year groups. Those of you with children in Years 8-10 may have missed the opportunity to attend an Open Evening due to the disruption caused by Covid. Please feel free to join us on either evening, if you would like to come and look around, meet the staff and see what we are all about.

I am delighted to welcome our new Vice-Principal, Sally Emms. Sally will lead the school's attendance strategy. School attendance is vital for students, both socially and academically. For example, last year it was those students that attended over 95% of school who made the most progress in their GCSE results. The pattern could not be clearer. Sally is contactable on semms@budmouth-aspirations.org

If you want to speak with a member of staff and are unsure who the right person would be, please do contact our Main Office by telephone (01305 830500) or email (office@budmouth-aspirations.org) and they will be happy to help you. If you want to discuss a general query about your child, their Form Tutor should be the main point of contact. If you have a more serious concern about any aspect of your child's welfare, then you should contact the relevant Head of School:

- Attenborough: Jayne Guppy: jGuppy@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Shelley: Lesley Carter: lacarter@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Turing: Pete Pring: ppring@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Hawking: Sophie Ives: sives@budmouth-aspirations.org

The Heads of School work closely with our Pastoral Support Leaders who are attached to each school. They are also all trained Safeguarding leads.

- Shelley: Deb Roberts: droberts@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Attenborough: Mitchell Fox: mfox@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Turing: Dawn Kirby: dkirby@budmouth-aspirations.org
- Hawking: Gareth Roberts: groberts@budmouth-aspirations.org

For any aspect of Special Educational Needs or Well-Being support then please contact Nita Dooley our Director of Inclusion: ndooley@budmouth-aspirations.org or Ali Lawrence our Student Support Lead: alawrence@budmouth-aspirations.org.

Questions or queries in relation to any aspect of the Sixth Form should be directed in the first instance to Sam Morris our Director of Sixth Form: smorris@budmouth-aspirations.org. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Phil Midworth: pmidworth@budmouth-aspirations.org.

Should you wish to make contact with one of your child's subject teachers, you are very welcome to do so. To request a call or email back or arrange an appointment, please contact the Main Office. The list above covers the main enquiries that we receive, but if in doubt, please contact the Main Office.

Finally, I would like to sign off by saying that I hope that your child enjoys the year ahead. We want them to work hard, be successful and have fun. In particular, we wish every success to those in Years 11 and 13 who will face the challenge of GCSE and A levels at the end of the year. Thank you for supporting us in achieving those aims.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Hoffmann
Principal