

News from school...

We really enjoyed seeing students back in school yesterday, all looking smart and ready to learn. Our new year 7 students seemed excited about their new school and, from the random sample I've spoken to today, seem to have had a good first two days.

Over the summer holidays, we celebrated a superb set of GCSE results. The national picture isn't yet clear, but our results look to be well above national average and perhaps the best results the school has ever achieved.

We're looking forward to...

We have a busy few weeks of events over this next half term, the key dates are listed below, and we will be sending out some detailed information to the relevant year groups nearer the time. However, there are some important points to note; we have two INSET days this term where school will be closed to all students for staff training, these are on **Friday 27th September** and **Monday 2nd December**.

Our open evening will be held on **Tuesday 1st October** for parents of students in year 5 and year 6 who are looking for a secondary school place for their child. We also have open days on **Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd October**. Full details will be available on the school website shortly.

Making school work...

The school photographer, Star Vision, will be in school on **Wednesday 11th September** to take individual student photos. These photographs are used for identification purposes on the school's management information system and you will also have the opportunity to purchase a photograph. Your child will be given a code which will give you access to view their photograph before purchasing.

The school health team will be in school on the **17th and 24th September** for flu vaccinations. We will be sending a consent form to parents which will need to be completed prior to the sessions.

With over 950 students in school our lost property fills up very quickly. Our office team are really good at reuniting students with missing items if they have the student's name in them. Please make sure all items including clothing, PE kits, shoes, coats, pencil cases and other personal items are named clearly.

Please remember that schools are not allowed to authorise term-time holidays. The government have recently changed the guidance around school attendance. Fines for holidays have been increased. The local authority will issue fines if you take your child out of school for a holiday in term time. Further information on this will be sent out separately.

Dates for your diary...

- Wednesday 11th September Student photographs
- Monday 16th September Year 7 baseline CAT tests
- Tuesday 17th September Year 7 baseline CAT tests and Flu vaccinations
- Tuesday 17th September Years 7-9 Flu vaccinations
- Tuesday 24th September Years 10-11 Flu Vaccinations
- Tuesday 24th September Year 11 Post 16 evening
- Friday 27th September INSET day, school closed to all students
- Tuesday 1st October Open day and Open evening
- Wednesday 2nd October Open day

Best wishes,

**Simon Grieves,
Headteacher**