

November 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new half-term. Many thanks for ensuring that pupils have returned to school in correct school uniform and that they are properly equipped for the year ahead. The end of last half-term was extremely busy and it has been a pleasure seeing our new Year 7 students settle into secondary school life. We want to take this opportunity to highlight the following messages as we start the new term.

Safety on Bonfire Night

As Bonfire Night fast approaches, it is important to remind our school community about the expectations around the safe use of fireworks. During the week leading up to Bonfire Night we are running year group assemblies to remind students of the risks associated with fire and indeed fireworks. During the past couple of weeks, there have also been instances of firework misuse around the local community. With this in mind, we are closely liaising with our Safer Schools Police Officer and our Police Community Support Officer to ensure that Hanson students are not putting themselves and others at risk. Any students caught with fireworks on school premises will be dealt with by the police.

Attendance and Punctuality

Hanson realises the need to drastically improve the attendance and punctuality of our students and we thank parents and carers for supporting us so far this term and sending their child to school on time and prepared for learning. You may have seen some of our staff members meeting and greeting students on the school entrances ensuring a prompt start to Form Time. Students should be ready to enter their form groups by 8.05am. Some parents have contacted the school regarding holidays during term time. The school does not approve any holidays to be taken during learning time and only approves occasions in exceptional circumstances and through liaison with the school in advance. We urge parents and carers to reinforce the importance of attendance and the impact this has on their learning. This can also lead to disadvantages when gaining University or College places after Year 11. This year has seen the change to lesson timings through the school day and there are still some students who are late to lesson. We ask that you also remind your son or daughter of the importance of punctuality.

School Access

It is important to remind parents and carers that the Sutton Avenue entrance is for disabled access only. If you are dropping off your son or daughter by car, the Goals entrance must be used at all times. If you have a pre-arranged appointment, the Sutton Avenue entrance can be used and our gate supervisor will be informed. Unfortunately, there have been instances where parents have been leaving unattended cars blocking the road, causing disruption for local residents. It is vital that all students wear their ID badge at all times, both for safety reasons and also to purchase food during the day.

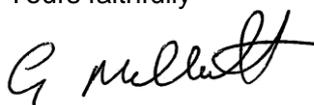
Improving communication

We have listened to feedback and created a page on our website which gives you a direct email contact for all areas in school. Parents are using this to communicate with their child's Year Team and subject areas to track performance and gain feedback on progress throughout the school year. You can access this area on the tab called 'communications' at the top of our website.

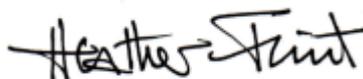
Permitted food and drink

In the interests of health and safety, we do not allow the consumption of energy drinks on school site. Items will be confiscated from those students who are caught consuming or selling such goods.

Yours faithfully



Mr G Moffatt
Consultant Head



Mrs H Flint
Chair of IEB