



23 September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

I wanted to get in touch to let you know some key updates and inform you of the excellent start to term that we have seen.

National Mourning Period

Following the announcement of the death of Queen Elizabeth II, we have observed the National Mourning Period. This included limiting our communications as much as possible and spending some time in school reflecting on the reign of Her Majesty the Queen.

Buildings and Start of Term

As I have mentioned in previous correspondence, we have experienced some complications with the landscaping around school as we look to complete our building project. This means we are still experiencing a longer route around site and we have less outdoor space and seating areas than we had hoped for at the start of term.

Despite this, students have shown great resilience and responded superbly to the challenges this creates. Attitudes to learning and around school behaviour have been impressive, if this is maintained we can expect a very good year.

Summer Examination Results

We were incredibly proud of the way our Year 11 and Year 13 cohorts responded to the difficulties of the least two years. Parents will be pleased to hear that examination results were extremely strong and a remarkable improvement on the last time an examination series occurred in 2019.

We continue to see our young people performing well above national averages and would strongly encourage you to have a look at our results section of the website to view the 2022 cohorts' achievements: <https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/results>

New Staff

Whilst not wanting to outline all the staff who have joined us this year, there are a number of key Pastoral appointments that I would like to make you aware of. Miss Ogden becomes Assistant Headteacher for Attendance and Attainment. Mr Wood, joins the school to take on the role of Assistant Headteacher responsible for Behaviour and Discipline. Miss Ogden's role with the Year 7 Team has been filled by Mrs Lajszczuk who Year 7 parents will already have met at induction days.

We have also welcomed new staff in the Year Manager role in school within our Pastoral Teams. Our Year Managers this year will be:

Year 7 – Mrs Normington
Year 8 – Miss Bairstow
Year 9 – Miss Edwards
Year 10 – Mrs Lee
Year 11 – Miss Barrass

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Clayton



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Attendance and Punctuality

The Department for Education states that full attendance is expected at school so that students can achieve their potential. Students who miss significant periods of school miss out on important teaching and learning and this can harm their progress. Term time holidays are not permitted, and the local authority may choose to pursue any unauthorised absences.

Alongside attendance, punctuality plays another important role in ensuring that our students are able to learn successfully. Arriving at school and being in their form rooms for 8:30am, means they take part in key personal development time in the morning. Any student arriving after 0833 for any reason will receive a comment and a break time detention.

If you have any concerns or need to support with school attendance, please contact your child's Year Manager in the first instance.

Extracurricular activities

As usual, we are having a huge push on ensuring as many students as possible are getting involved in extracurricular activities in school. The wide range of activities we offer is currently being promoted with our students in form time and lessons and many of these activities have already started.

A finalised list of what is available will appear on our website by the end of the week, please encourage your child to make the most of the opportunities available: <https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/extra-curricular>

Lunchtime

The new lunchtime arrangements see all year groups now having lunch at the same time. Whilst this gives benefits in terms of our ability to run lunchtime clubs and ensure teaching resources are effectively deployed, it does bring additional pressures to the catering offer.

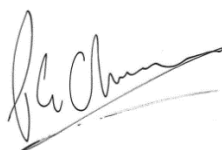
We are aware of some teething issues with lunchtime queues and space in our dining hall. Increased queues are an inevitable consequence of a single lunch, especially combined with the current limitation of our site. We have taken measures to improve serving times and increased space available to students. We will continue to monitor lunchtimes closely and it is our intention to consult with parents on the timing of the school day later this year.

School Term Dates

Below is a link to the school term dates for this year for your information. Training days for the year are also outlined here: <https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/term-dates>

As always, I want to thank parents for their support and look forward to a very successful term.

Yours sincerely



Paul Clayton
Headteacher