

12th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very busy term and I am sure everyone is looking forward to a well-earned break. Can I take this opportunity to publicly thank our staff, I know from personal experience of working in many different schools the staff at OBHS are outstanding and we are lucky to have such a committed staffing body. There is a lot of important information summarised below and I would encourage all parents/carers to note all that is covered.

Staffing

Inevitably at this time of year there is some movement in staffing and changes in role. I am very pleased to inform you that our school continues to be very popular with staff seeking to work here and we are fully staffed, given the national shortages of teachers this is very encouraging.

New staff:

Francesca Ahern – Cover Supervisor
Jo Evans – SENDCO/Teacher of English
Nathan Gull – Teacher of English
Ben Scott – PE Instructor/Cover Supervisor
Jennie Woods – Lead Teacher of Technology

Staff leaving:

Danny Crabb – Cover Supervisor
Louise Drake - English
Laurence Grunbaum – Cover Supervisor
Lauren Jordan – English
Emma Mills - Maths
Martin Reid – Technology
Kate Rix – English

Pastoral Restructure

After a review of our pastoral structure we have implemented a new structure regarding pastoral oversight. Heads of Year will be replaced by Progress Leaders and Pastoral Managers. Progress Leaders will ensure students in their core are making the academic progress needed and Pastoral Managers will ensure students attendance and welfare is managed. Mr Dwight who leads this team will explain how this system will work in September. The roles are listed below:

Mr Dwight – Assistant Headteacher
Mr Taylor – Progress Lead Year 10/11
Mr Cowan – Progress Lead Year 9/10
Mr Alderson – Head of Year 7 and Transition
Mrs Wabe – Pastoral Manager KS4
Mrs Picksley – Pastoral Manager KS3
Mrs Evans – SENDCO

Mrs Green – SEND Admin
Mrs Edmonds – Attendance Officer
Mrs Prince/Mrs Grunbaum – Pastoral Support Mentors

School Site Improvement

As I mentioned in my earlier letter, the planned site improvement is now underway. Hopefully by September the following improvements will have been completed:

- East veranda – new canopy, windows, social area
- Three mobiles removed
- New security fencing
- Removal of swimming pool (derelict)
- Upgrade of computer room
- Renovation of toilets
- New floor in Hall, Gym & Stage
- New security locks

We are very grateful to Mr Moorhouse and Mr Peck, and the team at Sapientia Education Trust for all these improvements.

Pupil Premium and Hardship Funding

As you may know the school receives funding to support students identified under the Pupil Premium Grant in order to raise attainment. The fund is not designed as a way to support financial hardship unless the school can demonstrate it is used to raise attainment. As a result the governors have agreed a new approach to how the Pupil Premium Grant will be used. I will be informing parents of the changes in September.

Uniform

As stated in my letter dated 5th April 2019, the school uniform has been amended and it will be closely adhered to in September. To avoid any upset in September, please ensure your son/daughter is in full school uniform in September, paying close attention to the rules around skirts and jewellery.

Finally, can I thank all those involved in the 80th Celebrations, the Summer edition of the Gazette will contain photographs of the day. The whole event was very enjoyable and many thanks to staff & Friends of OBHS who put a huge effort into the organisation of the afternoon.

Have a very safe and happy summer and I look forward to working with you next year.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Fell
Headteacher

