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Headteacher – Mrs Kelly Osborne-James

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Dear Parents/Carers,

1 Thessalonians 5:11, 'Encourage one and other and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing'. This verse has been practically lived out during our first week of Y11 mock examinations.

I have felt proud to see our young people and staff rise to the various challenges this week has brought and have written separately to Y11 parents with a mock update. On Monday, we are trialing a 'nutrition station' for our Y11 students where the school will provide 'grab and go' type breakfast foods before the start of the school day. Thank you to our staff team for leading this new provision for our Y11 students this coming week and for those staff who have volunteered to help.

(POAP 6) As you will remember from the Ofsted inspection report (Released October 2024), the number of cover staff teaching lessons was significantly high and therefore bringing into question the reality of consistent high-quality learning across the school. Last half term we worked to strengthen our relationship with supply agencies, including the interviewing of long-term cover staff to ensure specialist subject staff are employed to provide high quality learning opportunities. Recruitment was, and remains an urgent priority. I am very pleased to share that following recent successful appointments, we have already lessened the number of cover lessons by over thirty percent. This will continue to improve after the Easter holidays where more subject specialist teachers will be joining our staffing team. I will continue to keep you up to date.

(POAP 3) In terms of attendance, our Attendance Team have clear aims and priorities and through their relentless dedication coupled with your ongoing support, are helping to ensure our students are learning at school for the maximum amount of time. Sharing one significant improvement, 407 students in Terms 1 and 2 achieved 95% attendance compared to 531 students so far this term (Term 3). The successful triangulation between the student, parents and staff in addition to the external support is helping us to make a crucial impact on the lives of our young people.

Attendance – The government have a new major national drive to improve school attendance (launched 8 January 2024). Driving up attendance and tackling persistent absence is at the centre of new stronger measures launched this year.

The attendance team sent letters to all parents where attendance fell below 90% to highlight low attendance, so that this can be improved over the coming term. If you require support with your child's attendance please contact your tutor, head of year or the attendance team.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our students and parents who continue to ensure that their children arrive to school on time, with the correct uniform and equipment and have at least 90% attendance.

Pastoral - This week nearly 3000 house points have been awarded for student effort. Detention attendance has increased by 6% in January compared to December. Although there is still a long way to go, it is fantastic to see students taking responsibility for their behaviour and the consequences.

We would like to remind parents and students that we are a phone free school. Whilst we appreciate many young people will want to have mobile phones with them, these should be in their bags or lockers and be on silent throughout the school day. They should not be seen in school at any point.

Parent Academy Council Election - you can view the results of the parent local academy council elections [here](#). We look forward to working with Elizabeth in the coming months and years.

Festival of Tomorrow – this amazing event is coming to the Campus for the third year in half term, on the 16th-17th February. Some of our lovely young people will be involved and some of the most popular events book up really fast, so don't miss out and make sure you book your space! You can find more information on their website [here](#).

I hope you all have a peaceful weekend, thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Osborne-James