

Our Ref: F/Letters/170724GHU – End of Term Letter

24th July 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As the last day of term has approached, I am writing to confirm arrangements for the start of the next academic year and provide you with some important dates and information:

Key Dates

- Monday 4th September, at 10am: first day of the autumn term. Students in Year 8-11 should report to their form tutor for an extended tutor time and Year 7 students should go to the main hall. Lessons will start after break
- Friday 13th October: end of half term
- Monday 30th October: first day in new school
- Friday 22nd December: end of term
- Monday 8th January: first day of term

Other dates for the new school year will be loaded onto the website in the very near future.

School Day and Timetable

As previously advised, our school day is changing for the new academic year. School will start at 9am each day (except on the 4th September) and we will have three longer days and two shorter ones. The outline of the day can be found on our website (<http://kingrichardschool.net/school-day/>) or, if you have any questions, please do contact Mr Tucker (atucker@kingrichardschool.net).

School Uniform

The start of the new academic year may mean buying new uniform and so I remind you of our high standards. A uniform guidance sheet is available on our website on the following link: <http://kingrichardschool.net/uniform/>. Please refer to this if you are at all unsure of what is expected or contact me for further advice if necessary. Please also note that the PE kit has changed for next year and your child will now require the new PE top that is available from our normal suppliers.

As we get ready to move into our fantastic new school building, we want to ensure our expectations are as high as they possibly can be. Uniform is a good indicator of this and we know we can only do this with your support, so please continue to insist that your child dresses in the correct uniform each day, starting on September 4th. Please also take a few moments to make sure all uniform is labelled with your child's name and year group.

Staffing

The end of a school year usually brings with it a number of goodbyes to members of staff who are moving on: Mrs Morriss, Ms Bichard, Mrs Fowler, Ms Long, Mr Stuart, Mr McFarlane, Miss Li, Mr Samuels, Mr Toghill and Mrs Bruins are leaving after giving dedicated and valuable service to the school. We thank them for what they have done and wish them well in the next phase of their lives. We will also see much less of Mrs Evans on reception who will do some part time work before retiring at the end of the first half term.



In turn, we welcome a number of new colleagues to the school: Mrs Beck (Art), Ms Marsh (Art), Miss Cherring (English), Mr Reeves (Maths), Miss McQuilkin (Maths), Miss Chisolm (Science), Miss Maxwell (Science), Mr Hopwood (Geography) and Mr Holden (Geography). These are all excellent appointments and I know they will make a huge contribution to your child's learning.

Travel to School

As part of our move to the new school, we would like encourage more students to walk, cycle or take the bus to school and so reduce car journeys. If cycling, please ensure the bike is roadworthy and cycled safely, preferably with a helmet being worn. Please also note that our bike shed is locked, but bicycles are left at their owner's risk and so should be locked (with a D-lock) and insured.

Other issues

Please make sure we have the correct data for you, including an e-mail address (e-mail this to admin@kingrichardschool.net), and that you have completed the updated medical questionnaire attached to this letter. This medical information is vital to enable us to ensure your child is safe and healthy when in school and able to attend trips and visits. Please ensure this information is with us by the 29th of September 2017.

Students will not be given planners next year. Homework will now be set via an app called *Show My Homework*. The app can be easily downloaded to any smartphone or tablet and allows parents and children to manage homework and check progress. The app can also provide easy access to key documents such as your child's timetable. More information will follow on this in due course.

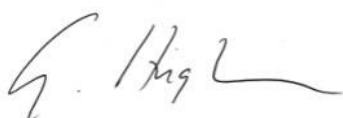
Next year, we will also be changing our reporting systems. We will report to you each term on how much effort your child is putting into lesson and provide information on how much progress they are making three times a year. We will try and provide two opportunities for you to come in and talk to your child's teachers as we know that many parents value face to face contact with teachers.

A six week summer holiday is much deserved, but it is also a long time away from school and so I would ask that you encourage your child to involve themselves in summer learning. Some time on the *MyMaths* website and keeping up with their reading will be time well spent this summer and make the return to school much more successful come September.

Next year will be an incredibly exciting year as we move into the new school and there will be opportunities for you to see the wonderful new facilities once we have moved in. As ever, our success is due to the partnership we have between school and home and I look forward to this continuing to be a strength next year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support throughout this last academic year and wish you a well-deserved and relaxing summer.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Hughes
Headteacher

