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Headteacher: Mr J Parr BA Hons

23rd October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the end of our first half term, I thought I would write to say how well the students have settled into a very different way of working. I would like to thank you for providing them with the support that they need to return to school safely and prepared for their lessons. This includes the equipment they need to be self-sufficient each day, their face covering to wear when required and for also supporting us to ensure that year group bubbles remain separate. Now that things are starting to settle down and students are more familiar with new ways of working, we are keen to remind all of our high expectations across the school.

Uniform

We have been somewhat lenient on the return to school, with safety being (and remaining) the priority and we are aware that some students have not been in correct uniform. After the half term break we are expecting that all students will return to school in correct uniform. We will be contacting the parents of those who are not, to help us to maintain high standards.

Currently some students are wearing skirts that are either too short or tight fitting, jeans, leggings and trainers, none of which are allowed under the uniform policy. Additionally, the only jewellery allowed in school is a watch and a single pair of stud earrings. Students will be asked to remove any excess jewellery in the first instance and repeat offenders will need to hand in their jewellery, which will need collecting by parents from school Reception. Nose piercings are not permitted in school, if you son/daughter has their nose pierced they must wear a clear plastic retainer at all times.

Cold / wet weather

As mentioned recently in 'The Link', due to the increased need for ventilation in teaching spaces, many doors and windows are required to be open. As the temperatures start to drop, it is important that students have a school jumper to wear over their polo shirt/white prefect shirt. It has been agreed that if students are in their jumper and polo shirt, but still feel cold, then they can wear additional layers. A vest/t-shirt (non-visible), and/or a school fleece over the top or a plain navy/black fleece can be worn. Please note that coats, hooded tops and tops that are not plain navy blue/black are not be allowed to be worn. Students will continue to be asked to remove outdoor clothing during lessons and when in the Hall/Restaurant at both break and lunch times.

Mobile phones

Finally, just a reminder about mobile phones in school. You will be aware that, being a rural school with many students waiting at bus stops, we do allow students to bring a mobile phone to school. However,

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Trust Office c/o Oldbury Wells School Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 5JD T 01746 765454 F 01746 762746 E admin@oldburywells.com they must be turned off, and kept in your son/daughter's school bag at all times. If your son/daughter is found with their phone out, it will be confiscated and placed in Reception until the end of the day. Repeat offenders will be issued with a phone ban. To support Safeguarding of all, students should not be using their phones on the way out of school, they should be kept in their bags until they are off school site. May I also take this opportunity to remind you that smart watches are also not permitted in school.

Rewards

We are very keen to continue celebrating the fantastic efforts of our students and you will have seen the frequent nominations for 'Student of the week' in The Link. Students are also still in receipt of House Points, which, when sufficient numbers have been accrued, can be 'traded in' for certain rewards. We are also aware that some students had achieved House points last year which they have not yet been rewarded. We are planning to arrange a non-uniform day for all those who reached 100 or more house points last year early next half-term.

All of the above points have been discussed in school with your son/daughter via a virtual assembly this week.

Thank you for your continued help and support, I hope you have a relaxing half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

M Longhurst

Martyn Longhurst Assistant Headteacher