



November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you all had an enjoyable half term break.

It was a very busy, yet productive half term, during which I witnessed some excellent examples of our 'ARCK' values in action, excellent attitudes towards learning and some excellent progress being made as a result.

The new PA2L (Positive Attitude to Learning) Policy has been well received by the vast majority of students and we hope to have resolved any inevitable teething problems in readiness for the run up to Christmas.

We are delighted that 901 students achieved the first threshold of 100 net points to be eligible for our first reward. 200 net points will be needed by the 5 December for our Christmas film "Cinema Experience". Please continue to monitor your child's ARCK Record on a daily basis and encourage them to work towards this reward.

We recognise that the ARCK records did not stand the test of time (or weather) during the last half term. The replacement ones are more robust, but will still need looking after and we encourage all students to store them in the plastic wallets that we have provided.

Some common issues identified last half term were often based around a lack of organisation for school meaning basic essential items such as their ARCK Record, equipment and uniform items were often forgotten at home. Please support your child(ren) with ensuring they are ready for school the night before with their bag packed and uniform ready to alleviate these issues.

### **Mock Exams**

Year 11 students have just begun their first important mock exam season. These will provide a very important benchmark from which students can identify areas for improvement in time for the summer series, whilst also being an important rehearsal for exam technique, time-planning and routines.

### **Homework/ClassCharts**

Teachers will continue to set homework via Class Charts. Students should all now have their Class Chart codes to login and will have copied the code into their new ARCK booklet on page 30. Please continue to remind your child to check the app on a daily basis. If your child has misplaced their code, please ask them to see their form tutor who will provide them with their code. Students were given parents' Class Chart codes to take home last half term. If you do not have the parent code, please email school and we can send it out to you. For details of how to set up your child on Class Charts, please click: [Slide 1 \(classcharts.com\)](#)

### **Prefect Inauguration**

Our Student Parliament attended their inauguration at Bradford City Hall on Wednesday 1 November. This was a very grand affair, in the presence of parents, carers and our Chief Executive Officer, Carol Dewhurst OBE.

Students were presented with their badges and certificates during the ceremony, before undertaking their first training in the Council Chambers and Magistrates Court.

Our Parliament has three specific departments:

- Diversity and Inclusion
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community Engagement



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS

Through these, students will focus on whole school improvement which will impact both the students within the school and others in the local community, and I am very much looking forward to seeing their progress in each of these areas.

In addition, we have the Student Leadership Team, which mirrors the staffing structure in school. These students had to formally present their manifesto as part of the selection process.

We have also appointed our Head Student, Deputy Head Students and Assistant Head Prefects.

### **Prize Giving**

We are very much looking forward to our annual Prize Giving on 9 November in Bradford Cathedral. This is always an uplifting event when we can celebrate the achievements and successes of our students in such a beautiful building.

### **Act of Remembrance**

At 12pm on Friday 10 November, we will be showing our respect for those who have fallen with a 2 minute silence. Lessons will pause and student will be asked to reflect. It is important that all students show this respect and we expect everyone to behave appropriately.

### **Dates for diaries**

6 – 17 November	Year 11 mock exams
9 November	Prize Giving at Bradford Cathedral
20 – 24 November	Year 9 revision
22 November	Aspirations Evening 5pm – 7pm
27 November – 1 December	Year 9 exams
30 November	Winter Wonderland 4pm – 6pm
4 – 8 December	Year 10 Exams
7 December	Year 11 Parents' Evening
7 December	Christmas Jumper Day
12 December	Pantomime 4pm
13 December	Pantomime 7pm
14 December	Senior Citizens' meal 4pm – 6pm
15 December	Break up for Christmas
2 January	School returns for all year groups

I am looking forward to seeing you at some of the above events. In the meantime, here's to a successful few weeks leading up to Christmas!

Yours faithfully



Andrew Taylor  
Headteacher