



January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

### ***Happy New Year!***

I hope you all managed to have some quality time over the Christmas period, with some opportunities to relax with family and friends, despite the inevitable colds and other illnesses prevalent.

It has been an excellent start to the New Year so far, and it has been a pleasure visiting lessons to witness such high levels of engagement. We are not complacent, however, and are well aware that there will always be more to do!

### ***On Time, Every Time***

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support with our procedures for dealing with students who are late to lessons. These have been in place for half a term now and have had a significant impact on students being on time, limiting any disruption to learning. As a result, **lateness to lessons has reduced by 53%**, which is excellent. Of course, we can still reduce this further, so **please continue to ensure that your child has their planner, and therefore their timetable, with them every day**. These are checked on arrival to school each morning.

### ***Mock Exams***

The vast majority of Year 11 students conducted themselves very well during their mock exam season. Now that result has been collated and analysed, identified students have been allocated a mentor, who will be discussing exam and revision techniques in the next few weeks in order to ensure the best chance of success in the summer.

Year 11 are now working towards their second set of mock exams which start after February half-term. Students are really focused now on getting the best GCSE and BTEC grades they can, and planning the next step in their education after the summer.

### ***Homework***

Last term, students were rewarded with achievement points for completing their homework. In particular, Year 7 students performed exceptionally well and we were able to celebrate their achievement with an end of term party. We will continue to reward students this term and would ask for your continuing support in ensuring that students complete homework. Prizes will be awarded in assembly each week and, at the end of this half-term, students can compete to win a JustEat voucher.

### ***Student Parliament***

This year the Health and Wellbeing department have separated into two groups, one focussing on mental health and the other on physical health. The physical health team are looking to plan, advertise and lead sports clubs targeting students who may not participate in sport outside of school. The mental health team are creating a film

and book club which will offer students a friendly and supportive environment to meet and discuss stories and films they love.

The Community department have also split into two groups; one group will be a set of journalists seeking out news stories which will feature in an entirely student created and edited termly magazine. The other team will focus on creating events for our community, supporting with events such as the Christmas Festival, Senior Citizens Christmas dinner and many more.

The Diversity department will be continuing with the pursuit to achieve the Bronze and Silver Diversity Mark. They have started by working with Grange Co-op Academy focusing on improving community links and dispelling myths and negative aspersions about our schools.

Finally, our Lead Prefects are creating a Uniform Swap Shop where parents and other members of the community can donate and collect second-hand uniform free of charge.

### ***Enrichment Activities/Clubs***

This term promises to be another busy one for enrichment activities.

Our extracurricular programme for spring has been launched to all students and their activities will start in the week beginning 9 January 2023. If you need any information please see Ms Holdsworth or Mr Ryan.

On Tuesday 7 February we have our BDAT Be There V production at the incredible venue of St George's Hall, which showcases performing arts talents from BBEC, Belle Vue Girls', Bradford Forster Academy and Immanuel College. There will be an afternoon matinee performance attended by all Year 7 students and then an evening performance, which is free of charge and available to everybody – tickets are available to collect from student reception. Please support this amazing event.

In the week beginning 20 March, we have the Year 8 and 9 residentials taking place and we ask all parents/carers to ensure that final payments have been made. On Wednesday 22 March the remainder of Year 8 and 9 and all Year 7 and 10 students will take part in Horizons Day activities, involving trips to many destinations around the North of England and these experiences will contribute further towards their Minimum Entitlement.

Work Experience is also still on the agenda for Year 10 and we continue to encourage all students to source a placement before half-term and return completed yellow Op1 forms to student reception. Our Year 11 students should also be finalising applications for future destinations on education, training or apprenticeships and employment pathways and have recently had a presentation on apprenticeships to support this option. If students from Year 10 or 11 need support, then please see Mr Grant (Mondays and Thursdays) or Mr Ryan.

Our fantastic Duke of Edinburgh programme is now in its second year and has been launched to Year 9 (Bronze Award) and Year 10 (Silver Award) and parent information evenings were held before Christmas. More information can be obtained from Mr Pollard.

Rewards will continue to build towards half term and then Easter with our traditional Easter Eggs being one of the awards students can receive with their points also contributing to the end-of-year summer experiences. We were extremely pleased to see over a thousand students enjoying the rewards films before Christmas.

Our charity events this term include initiatives led by our prefects, World Book Day on the 2 March and Red Nose Day on the 17 March 2023. Please see Ms Kaur or Ms Sadeghian for more information about these events.



I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff who make all these activities such a valuable experience for our students.

### **Community Events**

We held two highly successful events leading up to Christmas, with the intention of increasing our links with the local community. The first was our “Winter Wonderland” which took place on Tuesday 13 December. Despite the ice and snow, families and our local community came into school to join in the fun of our very own Christmas market.

Festive food and drink was enjoyed by all, our canteen served hot chocolate and marshmallows, mulled punch and gingerbread, whilst our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students designed, made and served a large selection of festive canapes for our guests to enjoy.

Guests danced the evening away to the sounds of Christmas classics, whilst having pictures taken in our festive photo booth and were able to have them printed so that they could take them away. Families took part in a range of interactive activities such as wreath-making where they were shown tips and tricks to make the perfect, handmade and fresh Christmas wreath. Some guests tried their hand at making their own felt stockings, learning a few basic stitching techniques whilst others had a go at making card chocolate boxes which they could fill and take away. Lots of our younger guests loved having their faces painted and there were lots of mini-Rudolfs to be spotted in the crowd!

BBEC are extremely proud to have invited our local businesses into school for the event: Julia’s Florist offered a range of festive arrangements, frames, jewellery and other crafts for sale, The Little Soap Hut had a wide range of wax melts, candles, soaps and bath products on offer, Sweet Confectionery sold a wide variety of delectable treats including blondies and brownies, there were handmade crochet hats and decorations which were hugely popular and Wood and Stuff amazed all of our guests with their artisanal wooden Christmas decorations. We would like to thank all of these businesses for their support of our event, and we look forward to welcoming them back at the next one.

Our annual festive lunch for our more senior residents in the community was well attended by members of our local care homes and nominated grandparents of students at BBEC. Everybody enjoyed a fantastic evening which included a Christmas dinner, a quiz organized by the prefects and BINGO. Many thanks to everybody involved, especially Ms Sadeghian for organising, Ms Tolan for the goodie bags and the canteen for a fabulous meal and all of the prefects.

### **Dates for diaries**

W/C 9 January	Year 7 Exam Week
Thur 12 January	Year 9 Parents’ Evening
W/C 16 January	Year 8 Exam Week
Wed 18 January	Year 10 Parents’ Evening
Thur 2 February	Year 11 Art Practical Exam
W/C 6 February	Year 11 MFL Speaking Tests
Tue 7 February	BDAT Be There @ St George’s Hall Yr7 Matinee
Wed 8 February	Year 7 Parents’ Evening
<b>Fri 10 February</b>	<b>Break up for half-term</b>
<b>Mon 20 February</b>	<b>School returns for all year groups</b>
W/C 20 February	Year 11 Mock Exams
W/C 27 February	Year 11 Mock Exams



Thur 2 March World Book Day  
Thur 2 March Year 8 Parent's Evening  
Thur 16 March Year 11 Reports & Parents' Evening  
Fri 17 March Red Nose Day  
W/C 20 March Year 8 Residential / Year 9 Residential / Year 8-10 Horizons Days  
W/C 27 March Easter Rewards Week  
**Friday 31 March Break up for Easter Holiday, returning Monday 17 April**

Once again, thank you for all your support and I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming Parents' Evenings or other event.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Taylor  
Headteacher



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS