

10 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As the first full week of school draws to a close, I would like to thank the students, staff and parents for the very warm welcome I have received. It has been fantastic to see the whole school community together and back to a level of normality both in lessons and around the site.

I have been impressed by the very smart uniform that students are wearing and by their positive attitude to their learning. Walking around the school and popping into lessons has been a highlight for me; students are highly engaged in a vibrant curriculum and getting back into good routines in the classroom and with homework.

We apologise to parents who are experiencing challenges with the delivery of new uniform, especially ties and blazers, from our uniform provider. For the very small minority who are not wearing correct uniform please ensure that this is corrected for Monday, including the removal of piercings and trainers. Students who have medical reasons for wearing specific clothing will be asked to share the most recent medical evidence.

I have spoken to every year group in assembly this week and emphasised the importance of our school CARE values, particularly the ethos of respect that enables us all to feel supported whilst at school. Mr Heathcote has reiterated the behaviour and uniform expectations that we have of our students and explained the slight changes to the reward system to introduce some more tangible rewards for those students who make an excellent effort each day that they come to school.

### Covid Updates

The testing of students has been extremely smooth, and I would like to thank the team of staff who have undertaken this task (whilst also maintaining their normal duties). So far, we have only had two positive results in the student community. Please do continue to ask your child to test twice a week and report the results using the links on the website: [Covid-19 - Bradon Forest School](#)

For those students who are isolating at home and well enough to do school work, we are going to offer the opportunity for them to join their class teacher and class via Teams. We hope this will give them the opportunity to see their teacher, hear the delivery of the lesson and join in via the chat function. Guidance as to how they do this is below. If help with Teams is required, please contact Fred Dundas our Network Manager at school.

*When a student clicks in the Team for their class at the correct time of day, they will see the meeting in progress and can click to join. They will then be admitted by their teacher and can join in the lesson through the chat function.*

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### Extra-curricular opportunities

From next week we start our WHOOSH activities once again, at lunchtime and after school.

Our after-school (free) buses will run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Activities range from Dungeons and Dragons to sport and music. We are also offering a range of clubs for Year 11 catch up and revision. In addition, we offer a KS3 Homework Hub after school on Tuesdays and a KS4 Homework Hub after school on Wednesdays where students can use our ICT facilities for homework.

We have attached this term's programme, but details are always on the website here:

[Extra-Curricular - Bradon Forest School](#)

Please also see attached to this email, details of (and the code to join) our exciting **Space: Meet the Stars event on Sunday 19 September 2021 at 7.00 pm.**

### Communication between school and home

This year we are going to trial communicating with parents in a slightly different way so that you can easily access all the up-to-date information that you may need, and we can more widely celebrate the successes and highlights from across the school community. We have therefore decided to:

- Expand the Parent section of the website to include sections on Parent Notices (up-to-date key information), Parent Letters (copies of letters sent to parents) and Parent Presentations (copies of presentations and resources delivered to parents in information evenings).
- Publish a termly Newsletter to celebrate the achievements and successes of students and staff.
- Continue to promote Bradon Forest School using social media sites (please note we do not routinely reply to comments on questions on social media and parents should instead contact Reception or use [enquiry@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk) :

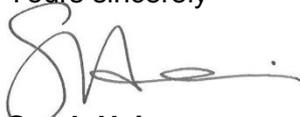
<https://www.facebook.com/bradonforestsch>

<https://twitter.com/bradonforestsch>

<https://www.instagram.com/bradonforestschool/>

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Sarah Haines**  
**Headteacher**

### Upcoming dates and information

[Published Calendar - School Calendar - Public - Outlook \(office365.com\)](#)

<b>16 September</b>	Sixth-Form Open Evening (for Year 11 students and parents ) 6pm Main Hall
<b>21 September</b>	Year 11 Dover Castle trip
<b>23 September</b>	Open Evening 6.00 pm for primary aged children and their families
<b>24 September TD Day</b>	No students in school
<b>30 September</b>	All year groups - One hour performance from female solo artist 'Lex Gibbon', followed by a talk on Mental Health, Body Image/Cyber Bullying and a live Q&A for students
<b>7 October</b>	Year 7 Tutor Evening
<b>8 October</b>	Year 10 Artist Visit