

6 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of term, I would like to thank you for the support you have shown the school so far this year. This term has been extremely busy for both staff and students (events will be reported in our end of term celebratory newsletter).

Year 11 conducted themselves in an exemplary manner during their first set of PPEs and we had the most wonderful feedback from the employers who interviewed them on 30 November 2021 during their mock interview session. We have continued to run trips and visits and all of Year 7 are visiting Stonehenge on 7 and 8 December 2021. There have been some outstanding sporting highlights including the U14 rugby team boys securing the Swindon Champions title, U16 Girls football team reached the last 32 in the English Schools Competition, Year 7 netball team were joint winners in the Swindon Schools Tournament, the U14 Netball team are Swindon Champions, the U16 netball team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Swindon Schools Tournament and the Year 7 girls Benchball team won an inter-schools tournament. The Year 10 Drama performance of Blood Brothers was a true showcase of the talented students we have at Bradon Forest, and Year 11 artists have also been utilising their skill and creating artwork for St Mary's Primary School. We are still awaiting the Ofsted letter from the November inspection, and I will send this to you as soon as it is available.

Following the consultation to slightly amend the school day in January 2022, we have received 23 responses to date from students, staff and parents. This would suggest most stakeholders support the proposed changes. There were however several concerns about changing the break and lunch slots to earlier times and the impact that this would have on routines and double lessons. We will therefore proceed in January with a school day that follows these timings:

08.45 - 09.15	Tutor Time will include a focused reading programme for Y7-Y10 and structured revision for Y11. We will continue with Wellbeing Wednesdays and assemblies every week.
09.15 - 10.15	Period 1
10.15 - 11.15	Period 2
11.15 - 11.35	Break
11.35 - 12.35	Period 3
12.35 - 13.35	Period 4
13.35 - 14.20	Lunch - (Y7 go to lunch at 1.30pm)
14.20 - 15.20	Period 5

Please note that, as in previous years, when external exams run in May and June 2022, we will need to move to an earlier lunchtime to facilitate the legal requirements of examination start and end times.

Continued/...



## **Covid Updates**

At the time of writing, we only have two positive cases of Covid amongst the student population. Government guidance is now that we should wear masks in any communal areas, and I thank the students who have readjusted to this very quickly. Whilst we have a supply of masks at school, please send your child in with one to wear.

**January 2022.** You will probably be aware that the government have instructed schools to undertake onsite student Covid testing upon their return to school. Tuesday 4 January 2022 is a TD Day and to accommodate the testing we will stagger the return to school as follows:

**Wednesday 5 January 2022:** Years 10 and 11 return – go to the Upper Hardplay and line up in tutor groups alphabetically.

**Thursday 6 January 2022:** Years 7, 8, 9 return – go to the Lower Hardplay and line up in tutor groups alphabetically.

Please also continue to support the testing programme by encouraging your children to take a lateral flow test twice a week both in term time and in the holidays. We will distribute more tests to students next week.

## **Christmas and End of Term**

We will end the term with some celebrations for the students which include:

- Classroom door House decorating competition
- Christmas Lunch Wednesday 8 December 2021 and Thursday 9 December 2021
- Bradon's Got Talent competition on Wednesday 15 December 2021
- Christmas Concert on Wednesday 15 December 2021
- Non-School Uniform Day for House Charities on Wednesday 15 December 2021
- Finish at 12.30pm on Friday 17 December 2021 (with a P3 whole school surprise event)

Wishing you all a restful two week break when it comes and a lovely time with your family and friends.

Yours sincerely



**Sarah Haines**  
**Headteacher**