

JAn/LHe

2nd April 2026

Dear parent/carer

I hope that this letter finds you well. I have some end of term updates and reminders as we head into the Easter period.

Calendar reminders

Summer 1 school reassembles	Monday 20 th April 2026
Immunisations - Year 8 HPV	Monday 27 th April 2026
Early May Bank Holiday – school closed	Monday 4 th May 2026
School Closes for half term	Friday 22 nd May 2026
School reopens for Summer 2	Monday 1 st June 2026

Basic standards reminders

Attendance to school continues to be a big focus for us and many other schools nationally. Although we have seen some small improvements to our overall attendance this year (compared to the same time period last year) there is still a way to go before we see attendance levels similar to those pre-pandemic. The improving areas are most significant in Years 7-9 and I want to thank families for continuing to support the message that coming to school is important. There is some work to do in Years 10 and 11 where the progress in terms of improving regular attendance has been slower.

Many thanks also to parents/carers that have been in touch with regard to the planned uniform changes from September 2026. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is to maintain a high standard of compliance with our uniform so that it is a fair system for all across the board. As a reminder, our new uniform is:

- Branded navy blue v-neck jumper.
- Branded tie which will identify the year group that the pupil is in. The pupils keep the same tie throughout their time in the school – they do not need a new tie each year.
- Un-branded plain white school shirt.
- Un-branded charcoal grey school trousers or skirt.
- No change to our current policy on shoes and coats.

Some parents have asked about our sixth form uniform policy. That will remain as it is now. Some parents have asked about issues with compliance and the time it takes to replace uniform. We are looking at making sure that our policy for September (which will not change dramatically) builds in a level of common-sense support but also places an expectation on parents/carers to take responsibility and plan ahead as much as is possible. As I wrote in my previous letter on this, we want the uniform to look smart but be affordable and practical.

Given that we are moving to a new uniform soon, we have decided that (from Monday 20th April) pupils do not need to wear a JCSC blazer. This is to stop parents from buying a new blazer for the final term – we do not want you to incur unnecessary expense. The weather should be warmer and so this should not pose any issues. Pupils are welcome to continue wearing their blazer if they want to (and it still fits). I must point out that this slight change should not be exploited by the pupils and I do not want to see blazers replaced by hoodies; we still have a uniform to uphold in the final term in the current building.

Staffing

Mr Robinson has left the school and his responsibilities, specifically in terms of pastoral (behaviour and attendance) leadership and safeguarding leadership, have been picked up by Mrs Johnson, our Deputy Head.

Mrs Thompson, Pastoral Support Officer for Year 10, goes on maternity leave at the end of this term. We wish her and her baby all the very best.

Two fixed-term Pastoral Support Officers have been appointed to start with us after Easter and I will do a proper introduction to parents/carers in my first letter of the summer term.

Year 11

I want to remind parents/carers that there are still opportunities for Year 11 to participate in additional support on the run up to their GCSE exams. We are running Easter revision sessions at the school and we would like as many of the pupils to come in as possible. Similarly, period 6 has been ongoing after school and Champions' Hour runs in the library until 5.00pm most evenings.

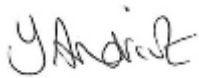
New build

I have had the privilege of being able to do two site walks in the new build over recent weeks. Each day there are approximately 100 workers on site and they are building at a fast pace. Rooms are being developed in each directorate area. I was taken into a demonstration classroom in the maths corridor so

that I could get a flavour of the size and layout. Behind the scenes there are meetings taking place on IT facilities and furniture, fixtures and fittings. Parents and carers are often asking me whether the build is keeping to schedule and, with six months to go, I am under the impression that progress is still on track.

As we move into the start of next term I will write again with updates and information. I hope your families have a good Easter and many thanks in anticipation of your continued support for the school.

Yours faithfully



Mr James Andriot
Headteacher