

To: all Parents/Carers

11 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. Having been at the school for half a term now I thought it would be good to send you a brief update. It's been excellent getting to meet more of our students and visiting them in lessons to see the work they've been doing.

1. From speaking with colleagues (and students) the school is calmer than it has been for some time. There are a number of factors linked to this and, although we're not where we'd like to be yet, things are moving in the right direction.
2. As well as reviewing how we manage behaviour in lessons (to ensure clarity and consistency) we are also looking at the reward system so that reward points can be appropriately acknowledged and make students proud of their achievements.
3. Feedback from our key stakeholders is important to moving the school forward. Next half term there will be both a student and parent questionnaire. We would really welcome your feedback on both the positives and the not so positives about the school, this will help us in planning for the future.
4. Unless you hear from us otherwise, we will be returning to no facemasks in school after half term. Students still have the choice to wear them. However, should cases start to increase again we may have to review this. Our aim is to start returning to as normal as possible.
5. We have had a huge amount of staff absence due to COVID but thankfully, due to the hard work of everyone in the school pulling together, we were able to keep all year groups in school throughout. I'd like to thank all staff for making this happen.
6. A reminder that students have to be in their classrooms by 8:30 am as this is the start of lessons. Please could you ensure your child/ward is aware of this and leaves home in plenty of time.
7. There have been lots of positive things going on in the school and we are trying to make more use of our twitter account to share this. The school can be found on twitter by searching for @TaverhamHigh (don't forget the capital letters).
8. Mrs Goldspink, Teacher of English, will be leaving us shortly after February half term to start her maternity leave. Miss Richards has already joined us to ensure a smooth handover from Mrs Goldspink.

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9. Although there wasn't a formal announcement at the time, some of you will know that Mr Linnell, Head of Sixth Form, was unfortunately hit by a car at the start of the Christmas holiday. I wanted to let you know that I spoke with him last week and he is recovering well.

We look forward to seeing everyone back after half term, where hopefully the days will be a little brighter and warmer.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr R Harris', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr R Harris
Headteacher