

9 December 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the end of the calendar year, it is great to see the school thriving and going from strength to strength. We have seen many successful developments within the school and I thank you for your continued support around these.

Trustees Visit to Cleeve Park School

On the 17th November we welcomed Matt Batchelor (TKAT Senior Director of Education) and two TKAT trustees to visit our school. They were delighted to see the really focused learning and excellent behaviour of our students. They commented on the engagement of students in their own learning and really challenging well-paced lessons that were being delivered by our staff.

Parental Support & Engagement

I was delighted to have a number of parent's volunteer for our staff governor and PTA team roles. We want to continue to build on this strong partnership between home and school so if you would like to support the school in any way, please contact the school office. We often have support staff roles advertised and would welcome applications from parents.

It is always good for us to be reminded of the safeguarding information that is available to parents. Here is a link to some really good online resources for safeguarding young people online.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/online-grooming-safety-guide-for-parents>

Bexley council is once again running some support events over the holiday period. It aims to deliver healthy food and enriching activities during the winter school holidays to children who receive benefits-related free school meals. Funded through the Department for Education it offers valuable support to families on lower incomes, giving them the opportunity to access rewarding and active activities alongside healthy meals and food education over the winter holidays.

Between Monday 19th and Friday 30th December, the London Borough of Bexley is funding 13 providers to offer over 2,540 places across the borough. These schemes offer a full range of enrichment activities including sport, food making activities, dance, arts and crafts, water sports and martial arts; at least one healthy meal a day and nutritional and food education for both participants and their families. Full details of this programme, the individual schemes and how families can book places can be found at www.bexley.gov.uk/holiday-activities-food-programme

We are always looking for ways to strengthen our communication and support with parents. The introduction of the **ClassCharts App** for parents gives you real time notifications of positive & negative behaviours and information regarding detentions. If you have not already done so, please download the app. Should you need any support, please contact Mr Moloney who will be happy to help.

Last week you received a link for a **parent survey**. We really appreciate the feedback that is being provided and helps us to make Cleeve Park better still. Please do take the time to access the link sent to you - it will only take a few minutes but will be enormously helpful.

Extra-Curricular Clubs: Sport

Extra-curricular activities have been overall very successful offering a range of activities to all age groups. The department has offered football, fitness suite, rugby and football for both boys and girls for all year groups. Football has been the most popular and it has been truly amazing when standing in the cold to see so many Cleeve students in one place participating in sports. The U15 & U13 girls teams are both currently undefeated winning all of their 5

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Headteacher: Mrs Alex O'Donnell
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games in both the London Cup and Kent Cup which is a really great achievement for the girls. The boys have had their ups and downs with some of the fixtures going against us but some convincing wins along the way have seen us steadily progress through the rounds. Moving into the next term, the PE team are looking at ways we can facilitate inter-form tournaments to encourage more students to get involved and have a real competitive nature running through the department.

Table tennis has been a huge hit in the last module. Adding Table tennis into the curriculum for this term, the department is hoping to expand on numbers and see some competitions being held across the school, with the aim on the horizon to compete with other local schools in the very near future. We are also looking forward to the re-introduction of trampolining club.

We have an additional PE teacher, Miss Stokes, joining us in January.

Extra-Curricular Clubs: Music & Drama

The KS3 band started in September. We currently have a wide range of students with different levels of experience playing a variety of instruments. It is open to anyone who is in KS3 and can be an absolute beginner as some of the time is used to teach the skills on the instruments. The music played is varied and also led by the students in terms of the song choices.

Production Club is currently for KS4. This club is an opportunity for students who want to learn how to make their own songs or their own 'beats', using industry standard software. The club gives the opportunity for students who do not have access to music making facilities at home to attend and be as creative as possible.

On the 15th of December we will be holding our Christmas Showcase of students who attend Cleeve Park and Cleeve Meadow. This will be an amazing performance with a variety of acts ranging from singing, dancing, and band pieces. This has been a long awaited first event organised since lockdown and tickets are available to purchase on Wisepay.

Trips and Visits

As you know, we have been very keen to get extra-curricular events, trips and visits up and running for the school. Over the coming months you will receive invitations to participate in those trips. I am however very mindful of the current situation regarding financial pressures on families so where a trip is vital to the delivery of the curriculum we will be supporting financially as much as possible for those in most need. We will still be offering a range of non-compulsory trips but please do not feel pressured to sign up for these. Sadly, as a school we too are facing financial challenges (as is every organisation) so are unable to contribute support for non-compulsory trips at this time.

Changes of role

We will be having a slight change in roles after Christmas for some of our support team. Mrs Lawrence will move from Year 11 into leading on Attendance (maintaining her Safeguarding role); Ms Mayzes will move into the PSL role for KS3 with Miss Manchester (again, Ms Mayzes will maintain safeguarding role). Mrs Hobbs will be moving up to Year 11 PSL role and Mrs Kane will remain with Year 10.

We return to school on Tuesday 3rd January. Please ensure that students are returning fully prepared with equipment and correct uniform. It is important that we start the new term off positively so I ask that in particular all nail varnish, false eyelashes and make-up be removed, and that you do not arrange for any new piercings which cannot be removed.

So as we come to the end of another successful term, I wish you all a very happy, peaceful and safe Christmas, and best wishes for the New Year.

Yours faithfully



Alex O'Donnell
Executive Headteacher

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