



21 October 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the close of our first term, I thought it would be good to communicate with you all to provide some updates. The first term of the academic year is always a busy one. We have held several parent events as well as a large number of Open days for prospective new students who are currently in year 6. Our students have been a credit to us and have truly shown how proud they are of being part of Cleeve Park School.

#### Term dates

Due to the Queen's jubilee, all schools have been granted an additional day off. Therefore we have added it to the end of the summer term and will now break up on Tuesday 19th July. We have also published our term dates for the year 2022-2023 and these are available on our website.

#### Attendance and Covid testing

You will have seen that nationally school attendance has fallen quite significantly. I am pleased that Cleeve Park attendance remains above the national average but there is still room for improvement. Whilst we have been in lockdown, it is clear that our immune systems have been somewhat weakened so please ensure that we are all keeping on top of coughs and colds and not missing school unless really necessary.

We are aware that some other local schools have seen a spike in positive Covid cases. Please ensure that you are regularly testing as a family. Should you require any additional testing kits, please contact the school and we can send some home with students.

We were disappointed that we were unable to complete the Covid vaccinations this week but hope to be able to reschedule them after the October break.

#### Uniform

I am always very proud when members of the public comment on our students and their uniform. The introduction of ties has been really successful. The students are looking smart and we need to maintain this. Please ensure that your child leaves home with their tie and blazer. Also, as we go into the half term break, it may be a good time to renew shoes where necessary. Students should not be wearing trainers.

We have begun to see a slight increase in jewellery and makeup/nails. Students are allowed to wear a watch and that is all. Please ensure that there are no earrings, facial piercings or overt make up being worn. The holidays are often a time when students have piercings done. Please do not consent to this without understanding that they will be required to remove them when they return on 8th November.

#### Mobile phones

We have been really pleased with the vast majority of students and parents who have actively engaged with our mobile ban. If there is an emergency and you need to communicate with your child, please call the school and we will get that message to them. If your child contacts you - please ask them to speak with a member of staff. We have had a small number of incidents where a student has called home and only given part of an incident or asked to be collected because they feel unwell. I am asking that you support the school with this approach to banning mobile phones so that we can ensure that communication is clear and accurate.

We look forward to welcoming the students back on 8th November. In the meantime, I hope you have a restful and enjoyable break.

Yours faithfully

Alex O'Donnell  
Executive Headteacher

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