



## **Newsletter – September 2016**

### **Student Absence**

**It is the school's responsibility (specifically the Principal or Headteacher) to decide if an absence is authorised or not.**

**Even if a parent/carer calls in with an explanation for a student's absence the Principal has to decide whether to authorise it or not.**

**Clearly a genuine illness would be authorised whereas a shopping trip would not.**

**We have in the past authorised holidays during school time, but so that we are in line with other BRADFORD schools, we will NO LONGER authorise holidays.**

**I do understand that for many families money is tight and the savings as a result of taking holidays in school time can be significant. I also understand that the ill health of an elderly relative in a foreign country can require a quick, unplanned visit. Nonetheless our students need to be in school during term time as research shows that a small number of missing days can lead to students significantly underachieving.**

**Parents should understand that an absence of 20 days would mean that their child would lose their place here and they would be taken off roll.**

### **Lates**

**We have a minority of students who are arriving to school late. Can you please ensure that they leave home in good time. We will write to you if a student has more than two lates in a week.**

**Students who are persistently late will have to do a 30 minute Behaviour Review at the end of the week.**

### **Safeguarding Week – w/c October 17th**

**To mark Safeguarding Week we will be doing some work with our students around safeguarding. We will specifically be looking at E-Safety. We are planning to invite a speaker into school and we hope that he will be able to speak to parents in the evening of that week. I'm just sowing that seed now but will confirm it as soon as possible.**

### **Communication with parents regarding students**

**As our school is growing there are more students with similar names. This can lead to confusion as we may pass on a message to the wrong student or we may pass on a wrong message to parents.**

**To help us - if you communicate with us can you please tell us:**

**The name of your child  
Your child's Coaching Team (please ask your child the name of their Coaching Team  
- 7C; 9A etc.)**

Your child's date of birth

### **Enrichments**

**We have had a disappointing number of replies to our enrichment programme this term. We want all students to undertake at least one enrichment per week. If your child has lost their letter please ask them to pick up another one in school and return it as soon as possible.**

### **Half Term Holiday**

**Please be reminded that we break up on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 1.40 pm. Students return to school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November. Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October is a training day for school staff.**

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jez Stockill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

**Jez Stockill, Principal**