



CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

18th December 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you all for your continued support of our school. As is increasingly the norm, our students have been fantastic. In particular, it has been a delight to see our new Year 7s settle so well and we have all been proud to see how our older students have gone out of their way to help them find their place in our community. Before we break up there are a few updates I would like to share with you.

Homework and Knowledge Organisers

Over the last few weeks I have spoken to a number of parents who have informed me that their children have told them that we have a 'no homework' policy and that while at home the only thing our students should do is 'relax'! To clarify, following feedback from parents and students we have removed individual homework tasks that were often poorly linked to the curriculum and placed unnecessary stresses on students and their families. In their place, we expect every student to use their Knowledge Organisers as a revision tool. Knowledge Organisers are given to students at the start of each term and contain a page of information directly related to the curriculum for every subject, which we expect students to revise over the half term. Copies of the Knowledge Organisers along with a guide on how students and families can use them can be found on our website under the Parents / Home Learning tab. We have recently had a period off timetable in which form tutors have given guidance on how the Knowledge Organiser can be used and in the new year we will be running further sessions for parents who would like guidance on how to support their children with these learning tools. If you have any queries in the meantime do please drop me an email and I will be more than happy to help.

Importance of Reading

In the new year one of our major targets will be to promote reading and literacy across the school. Amongst other things, we are planning a full refurbishment of the library, a major investment into library stock, the introduction of the Accelerated Reader programme and a review of our timetable to allow daily time for students to read in their form groups. In addition to this, we are asking that where possible you encourage your children to read for pleasure at home. We have identified literacy as the single most significant obstruction to our students excelling in their learning and anything that you can do at home to promote this would be very much appreciated.

Additional Parents Evening in July

You will be aware that following feedback from parents we no longer send written reports home. This is because the reports that were going home were not personalised to the students and instead were generic comments taken from a comment bank. Instead we will be having an additional parents evening at the end of every year where parents can come in, meet with either the student's form tutor

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or a member of the senior leadership team and discuss overall progress. We will share the date for the parents evening when we return in the new year, so you have plenty of notice.

MyEd and Twitter

Just a reminder that we would ask all parents to sign up for MyEd, where you can communicate with the school and get access to information relating to your child. Also, please do follow the school on Twitter, where we put daily news and updates about our community.

Once again, thanks for your ongoing support of Cansfield High School. If you have any comments or queries please always feel free to drop me an email direct at: g.baker@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk.

Happy Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GB', written in a cursive style.

Geoff Baker,
Headteacher.