



# CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you are well and looking forward to the Christmas holidays. Please find below a hodgepodge of different updates relating to our school.

## **Tracey Knowles**

I wanted to extend a huge thank you to all of you for your kind words following the death of Tracey and your support and patience over the days around the funeral. In addition to a substantial number of staff attending the funeral, four senior students represented the school and behaved impeccably, not only paying their own respects but also showing real empathy and concern for the colleagues they attended with. In the midst of such sorrow, it was absolutely humbling to see our students behave in this way.

## **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Given the number of students going on the Trafford Centre Trip, to facilitate arrangements for the day we have decided that ALL students in the school can come in their own clothes. If students do not wish to do this, they can come in full school uniform as normal. Those students who are to attend the Trafford Centre Trip will already know arrangements from Mrs Ainscough who is the trip organiser and can be contacted at [m.ainscough@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:m.ainscough@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk).

## **Last Day of Term**

The last day of term is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. School will finish at 1pm after an early lunch at 12-12.45 and then a 15-minute form period. Students can wear Christmas jumpers. The bus company cannot collect students at 1pm so we will be providing drop offs in the school minibuses. If you can pick your child up or are happy for them to walk home it would be much appreciated, but if not, we will ensure that they are taken home in the minibuses in as timely a manner as possible. Students who would normally take the school bus and need to go home via the school minibus should meet in the Library at 1pm and we will make appropriate arrangements.

## **Start of New Term**

Just a reminder that 3<sup>rd</sup> January is an INSET day and that students do not return to school until Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> for a full day as normal.

## **2022 Results Confirmed and Prize Evening**

The summer results have been confirmed and are now available on: <https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables>. Not only are these by far and away the best grades the school has ever achieved, but we are above national averages on all key measures and Cansfield is not only one of the highest performing schools in the borough, but also the most improved school in the borough. Last week we saw our last Year 11s off at their Awards Evening. Their outcomes were superb, and they have all gone on to great things, but we are most pleased about the wonderful people that they have become and hope that they will keep in touch. It was also great to see Jackie Jones, our former Deputy Headteacher, return as our guest speaker. Jackie worked at the school for nearly 40 years and taught many parents and grandparents (!) – it was lovely to hear Jackie's thoughts on the year

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group as well as to honour her service to the school with the introduction of a new named award for progress. Likewise, we were grateful that Tracey Knowles's family allowed us to create a new award in her honour for kindness.

### **School Dog**

You may have been informed by your children that we have recently acquired a school dog. This is a direct result of years of harassment that I have endured from students requesting this. The dog is a cockerpoo called Maggie. When not in school, Maggie lives with me and my family and she is currently 5 months old. Maggie is going through some intense training to become a therapy dog. Full details about Maggie and her training schedule, along with a risk assessment, can be found in the School Dog Policy on our website. At present Maggie is only coming in for odd days to become acquainted with the school, but her presence will increase over the forthcoming months and years. There will be an update about Maggie in each of the school newsletters that are produced three times a year (the next one is due in January).

### **Pre-Loved Uniform**

Just a reminder that if you have any pre-loved uniform and would like to donate it to school, we would be very happy to receive it. We now have a substantial collection of pre-loved uniform that we have made available to parents who need it. Where we have not had appropriate items at hand, we have provided financial support for new items to be purchased. If you are struggling with the cost of uniform do not hesitate to contact me and thank you to all of you who have supported with this endeavour.

Thanks for your support and as always, if you have any concerns or queries, please feel free to email me direct at [g.baker@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:g.baker@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk). I hope you all have a lovely holiday.

Best wishes,



Geoff Baker.  
Executive Headteacher.