



CANSFIELD

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

14th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is my pleasure to welcome you back to Cansfield for the academic year 2023-24. I wanted to write to you with some reminders and updates:-

New Staff

To ensure we are continuing with small class sizes, we have actively recruited new staff and are delighted to welcome the following members of staff to Cansfield –

Creatives Faculty
Ms. L. Stone
Mr. A. Kelley
Miss M. Williams
English Faculty
Miss R. Tinsley
Humanities
Mr. A. Smith
Mr. W. Sharrock
Mr. J. Gregory
Maths
Mr. J. Flight
Mr. L. Fairhurst
Miss H. Devany
Performance Faculty
Mr. S. Bell
Mr. J. Glover
Science Faculty
Miss D. Rothwell
Mr. A. Wright
Pastoral
Ms R. Darbyshire

Acting Headteacher: [Mrs N Daniels](#)
Cansfield, Old Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan. WN4 9TP

Knowledge Organisers

Home learning across the school will be completed using knowledge organisers. Students will be given these for the year group in book format. They will show each learner the core knowledge for each subject. Students are expected to use these consistently throughout the year and will be shown how to make the most effective use of them to allow them to prepare for low stakes assessments and cumulative end of unit tests. Research shows that they enable learners to maximise their learning and understanding of the core knowledge needed by using 'spaced practice,' when core knowledge is returned to time and time again allowing key information to be stored in students' long-term memory. We will focus on strategies allowing families to support their children with these during our Parent Engagement Evening.

Exam Success for Year 11 Class of 2023

As a school we are very pleased to announce the success of our departing Year 11. Against a national backdrop of uncertainty, as I am sure you will have read about in the press, our students manage to improve in every headline measure since the last set of comparable data.

- The percentage of students achieving a 4+ in Basics (English and Maths) came in at 65%.
- The percentage of students achieving a 5+ in Basics came in at 40%.
- We are the only local school to have improved in all headline measures since the last set of comparable data and only one of four across the borough.

As you are aware, these students had been impacted by the pandemic and we are thoroughly proud of their efforts and achievements. I would also like to mention how dedicated and committed the staff are in their support of these students, including leading after school, weekend and holiday revision sessions. It also goes without saying that they could not have done this without the support of our families. We would like to wish our Class of 2023 the best of luck in their future and look forward to welcoming them back to the GCSE Presentation Evening in November.

Supporting with Managing the Cost of Living Crisis

Unfortunately, this does not appear to be going away anytime soon and at Cansfield we want to ensure we are supporting you as best as we can. We have the following in place:

Support with uniform costs – For some years we have offered support to those who are struggling with the cost of uniform. Please keep in mind that this support remains and if help is needed you only need to email me and we will do what we can. This may be financial support or it may be access to our collection of pre-loved uniform.

Support with costs of trips –In the first place, while we recognise that trips are hugely beneficial part of the learning experience that our students have while with us, the only trips we will now support are ones that we deem to be within the scope of reasonable affordability. We also always set aside funds for those who need it to support with the cost of these trips.

If a trip is organised, please do not be put off by the cost if you think it would be beneficial for your child to attend. Drop me an email and we will outline the support we can provide.

Support with costs of breakfast – We run a breakfast club at school, which is accessible to all and includes toast, tea cakes, cereal etc at a very reasonable cost. If you are struggling with meeting this cost, regardless of whether your child receives free school meals, please do not hesitate to let me know and we will ensure that your child has a breakfast every morning.

Support with costs of lunch – Over summer we have transformed the canteen into our ‘Refectory,’ including a refurbishment allowing seating areas to be maximised and all students to eat in here. It offers great value, nutritious food at a very reasonable cost. The government provides free school meals for those who are deemed to meet certain criteria. Around a third of our students have access to free school meals, which our facial recognition system ensures is handled in a manner in a way that ensures no one else would know. If you do not currently access free school meals and your circumstances change in anyway please contact us and we can support you through the application process. The savings from this are very significant so we would encourage you to explore this.

Open Evening Early Closure on 12th October

On Thursday 12th October the school will be hosting an Open Evening for prospective students and their families. To give us time to prepare there will be an early finish of 1.35pm. Some of our students will be invited back as helpers and leaders for the evening. More details about the public bus will follow.

Updates for Our Newsletter

We have had lots of lovely feedback about the school newsletter, the first of which went out just before summer. One section of the newsletter is concerned with student news. If your child does anything at all outside school that you think needs celebrating please let me know – might be sports, volunteer group, a promotion in a part time job – please let me know so that it can be included in the newsletter.

As always, I would like to thank you for your support and should you wish to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at n.daniels@cansfield.wigan.sch.uk.

Best wishes,



Nicola Daniels
Headteacher