

Sir Robert Pattinson Academy

Via Diversa Vita Una



15 July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

End of year reports, ASDA £1 meal offer, Les Mis DVDs, PGL arrangements, Weather updates, Family learning, Year 13 Prom, Sports Day, Academic Awards Evening, Request for uniform and PE kit donations, Notice from the Police - swimming in the Millennium & Apex lakes at Hykeham, Sixth form fundraising

Welcome to my penultimate update letter of this academic year. While I am not really sure where the time has gone to this year, this week has been 'full on' with evening events every night. From prom to awards with some family learning in between (not to mention Full Governing Body on Monday evening) it almost feels like the time for a well-earned rest. If you can't feel proud as a Head during weeks like this, you're in the wrong job. More below:

End of year reports

End of year reports will be published for all year groups early next week.

ASDA £1 meal offer

Asda has announced a plan to help feed children this summer, meaning children across England and Wales can eat for just £1 at any time of day in Asda Cafés, seven days a week, with no minimum adult spend required.

To help tackle holiday hunger at a time when the cost-of-living is higher than ever, children aged 16 and under can access a hot or cold meal for just £1.

The Kids Eat for £1 initiative is available all day, every day from 25 July until 4 September in England and Wales, as long as the Café is open and dependent on the store, a hot meal or cold meal, or both, will be on offer.

Baby food is also available as part of the initiative, with little ones able to enjoy a free pouch of Ella's Kitchen baby food (70g pouch) in their local Asda Café.

<https://corporate.asda.com/newsroom/2022/07/05/children-can-eat-for-just-1-at-asda-cafes-across-england-and-wales-this-summer-with-no-minimum-adult-spend>

Les Mis DVDs

Our professional DVDs have now arrived and are available to purchase on ParentPay priced at £10. I realise this may seem a little expensive for a school production but they cost us £18 each to commission so I hope you understand.

We realise that not all cast members will be filmed in the professional version due to the cast size. We also filmed all performances but not to the same commercial standard. We are in the process of finalising our footage and will also make that available for purchase but at a much lower cost. Once we have completed



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our work internally on the discs, they will also be made available on ParentPay for £5.

I was disappointed that I was not able to give out the colours ties I promised to all Les Mis cast members during our final Full School Assembly on Wednesday as they had not arrived in time. Typically, they arrived early on Thursday morning!

I will personally deliver one to each cast member before the end of term and am liaising with Miss France for a cast list in order to do so. They do look great though and I attach a photo for you as a bit of a teaser....

PGL arrangements

We have been in touch with PGL regarding arrangements for the trips early next week given the weather forecast of up to 40 degree heat. We have been assured that, where possible and necessary, activities will be moved indoors to spaces with air conditioning. In addition, they have quite rightly requested that all students take with them sun cream, hats and a refillable water bottle. The latter is absolutely critical. We are also investing in some caps/hats to take with us in case some students forget to take one or they get too hot. We have risk assessed the trip again and still feel, given these assurances, that it can proceed. If anything changes we will contact you over the weekend.

Weather updates

The forecast for next week looks unusually hot and this is causing me concern. It is helpful that the trip to PGL is running early in the week as it means less children will be in the building but, over the weekend, I will be risk assessing our approach to forecast temperatures of up to 40 degrees. This will mean some changes to what, when and how we offer an education next week, such as the following:

- re-rooming to the cooler side of the building
- students wearing PE kit and shorts (if students do not currently own shorts we will accept blue, black or grey sports shorts)
- students bringing and refilling water bottles
- Collapsing parts of the timetable, for example, PE lessons not taking place after period 2 at the latest
- Mobile water stations moving around the building for students to refill water bottles
- Not allowing students outside in such extreme temperatures

I have already taken advice from ASCL and the DfE have already written to me to explain that “it is not our advice for schools to close” which actually translates as “don’t you dare close or we will do something to you.” Should parents feel that it is not suitable for their child to attend school on Monday and Tuesday because of the heat, we will not look to pursue this on attendance grounds but ask that you email/call us in the usual way to inform us of your decision. Should you email us at attendance@srpa.co.uk please use the subject line to give your child’s name, form and use the subject **Weather**. Thank you.

Should you need to know anything else we will contact you, once again, over the weekend.



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Family learning evening

I hope Year 6 parents found this useful. I was really impressed by the turnout and received lots of positive feedback. If you were not able to make it, all of the takeaway materials can be found here: [Family Learning Resources](#) We really look forward to seeing your youngsters in September with some big smiles on their faces! If you have any last minute worries before the end of term, please contact Mr Adlington via transition@srpa.co.uk.

Year 13 Prom

On Tuesday this week, the seven year journey of our most senior students finally came to an end as they attended prom. There were so many wonderful modes of transport, suits and dresses and it was so wonderful to see those who you remember being quite small at one point having grown up and being about to 'fly the nest'. Their behaviour was fantastic, which was also noted by the external food and drink vendors, and they did themselves proud. I will miss them terribly but will follow their careers from afar. Good luck in all that you do Year 13!

Sports Day

I am keenly aware that, for many people, school is not just about the lessons we attend and the things we learn and just as much about the experiences that are the usual rites of passage for all children and youngsters. Covid has robbed our youngsters of their chances to enjoy certain events and a summer sports day is one of those. Thankfully, with a late purchase of even more gazebos, mobile water stations and a cool off zone, we were able to hold a really fun day which was carried off in the right spirit. I am glad we were able to make it happen. Mr Fell and his team deserve real credit for their hard work and for going the extra mile.

Academic Awards Evening

I was delighted to see such a wonderful turnout for our awards evening. It is always a proud moment to see your children succeed and equally positive to see large numbers of parents back in the building to celebrate with us. I hope that a lovely event was had by all. I always find them a great source of pride!

Request for uniform & PE kit donations

Should any parents have any old uniform items or PE kit they are happy to donate to the Academy because their child is leaving us or has outgrown the garment, we would be most grateful. We are now offering items as part of a second hand uniform shop given the current cost of living to help families in need of a bit of support. All items are suitable laundered and cleaned/dry cleaned prior to being made available for sale so there is a small charge. Prices are published on our website under **Students, Our Uniform**.

Notice from the Police - swimming in the Millennium & Apex lakes at Hykeham

As the hot weather continues, we at Lincolnshire Police have received a number of reports of youths swimming in the Lakes at Hykeham. We are warning about the dangers of swimming in lakes and open water, especially former gravel pits. We can point to several dangers:



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- Deep quicksand and sheer drops from shallow water to very deep water.
- Not monitored and no lifeguards.
- Beneath the water are several hazards, including pieces of machinery and infrastructure from when the area was an active quarry, which could cause serious injury.
- People may become tangled up in stringy weeds.
- Cold water shock, which can seriously affect breathing and movement.

There are also health implications:

- Weils disease (Leptospirosis), a bacterial infection spread by animal urine, especially that of rats.

Not so appealing now...?

Please choose safety. If you are a parent whose children might be tempted, please speak to them about the dangers, which can be fatal.

Neighbourhood Policing Team Hykeham/Bracebridge Heath/Cliff Villages

Sixth form fundraising

Our wonderful sixth form students offered face painting and ice pops on sports day this week at a reasonable price in order to raise funds for the sixth form garden area. They have asked for permission to sell ice pops in the Great Hall every lunchtime next week and I have agreed. Should your child wish to take advantage of this then it would be helpful if they brought some small change next week.

Nelson Mandela once said “There is no passion to be found playing small – settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.”

To all of our students, but especially for those Year 13 students going on to exciting destinations, to Year 6 youngsters about to join us, to those who took part or were victorious on sports day and to those who took home an award from Full School Assembly or Academic Awards Evening, well done and shine bright. Your future is just beginning.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Hardy
Head Teacher



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