



14 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Awards Evening, Year 6 Parents' Evening, Year 13 Prom, Student Timetables and Publication of Reports, Uniform and PE Kit Donations**

Welcome to my end of week update letter. The changeable and, oft, disappointing weather has caused most of our plans to move about this week and, in some cases, into next week. Sports Day was successful on Thursday and congratulations to the victorious House will be shared in full school assembly next week when a lucky Head of House will lift the end of year Governors' Cup. However, the Rewards afternoon on Wednesday this week, as well as our Jubilee celebration afternoon today have had to be moved to Monday next week in the hope of avoiding some rain. That said, we adapt as we go. Updates below:

### **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

As mentioned above, Monday is the day for everything rewards before the end of term. We currently plan that the postponed afternoon from Wednesday this week will now take place during periods 1 and 2 on Monday with period 3 as normal. The Jubilee celebration afternoon will now take place on Monday afternoon during periods 4 and 5. We have re-booked ice creams vans for then so it should be as planned with just a changed date, weather permitting given the current forecast.

### **Awards Evening**

A wonderful evening was held yesterday with over 200 awards being given out. It was so well-attended that we had to move the event to the Sports Hall! While the acoustics are far from ideal, I would rather that so a maximum number of students could all be awarded their prizes. We also took formal photos of every award winner in attendance and will endeavour to send them out before the end of term.

### **Year 6 Parents' Evening**

An incredible attendance and a successful evening. Every year, on this evening in July, it is always great to meet our new intake properly with their parents/carers. We look forward to working with you all from September.

### **Year 13 Prom**

We have finally said goodbye to our oldest students and sent them off into the world! A very successful and happy event was held this last Tuesday at the Academy which the students had a hand in planning. The current Year 12 group are now looking forward to planning for theirs next summer. A big thank you also to all staff who planned and attended the evening.

## Student Timetables and Publication of Reports

Due to the exponential growth of the Academy again, we do not intend to publish student timetables until the beginning of September. However, end of year reports will be published in the early part of next week.

## Uniform and PE Kit Donations

In order to ensure that we have enough stock in our second-hand uniform shop, we are looking again for any donations please, especially in larger sizes (thinking of leaving Year 11s). We have become somewhat depleted of late in this area and would value the kindness of others in this cost-of-living crisis to support across our community. We would also value any old ties, blue or red. Thank you.

With hindsight, it now seems fortuitous that we practised our site lockdown last week given the awful events this week in Tewkesbury. While it wasn't an intruder causing the problem on that occasion, it brings the issue into sharp focus and spotlights the serious issue of keeping a school site safe on a daily basis. My thoughts are with the parents, staff and student body at that school as I can only imagine how it would feel if that occurred here. At times like this, like we saw during 2020, communities need to come together. As American songwriter Ani DiFranco once said, "I know there is strength in the differences between us. I know there is comfort, where we overlap."

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



**Mr D Hardy**  
**Headmaster**



"This is a calm, happy and caring school."

