19th December 2019





Dear Parent/Carer

May I start by wishing you Season's Greetings! I hope you are looking forward to a restful and enjoyable festive period. Students are finishing this term by celebrating their successes through such events as the 'Pizza Party' and 'Winter Wonderland', as well as the trip to Cologne, Grove's Got Talent competition and the Christmas Cracker showcase. It promises to be a wonderful end to a wonderful first term.

You will by now be familiar with the format of **Progress Day**. The feedback given by parents and carers in the past shows that this event can prove more helpful and easier to attend than traditional parents' evenings. This year, **Progress Day** takes place on **Thursday 24**th **January**. On this extended day you are invited to school to speak to your child's tutor for a meeting that will last approximately 20 minutes. You will be provided with a comprehensive range of data including your child's 'Attitude to Learning' grades; the most recent data from all of their classes; key messages from their subject specific staff; their targets and what they need to do to achieve these. This new format will provide you with key information about your child's progress. Following comments from parents and carers after last year, the format of feedback has also been improved to give more information and details of the most recent assessments and gradings given by staff at the end of this term and the beginning of the next.

The day will run from 08:30 until 18:30 and over that time you will need to make an appointment with your child's tutor – they will do this in tutor time. The appointment will last for 20 minutes and will take place in your child's tutor room. On arrival at school you will need to sign in at reception to comply with our fire regulations. Your child should attend in uniform. For the rest of the day your child will be set work by their class teacher and should be working at home throughout the day. Attendance is essential so that we can inform you about your child's progress and so that you have an opportunity to have an extended discussion with someone who knows your child well. We have extended our working day to accommodate your working hours as far as we can so we are sure that you will be able to make the time to come in. If there are any issues with this, please contact your child's tutor or Progress Leader.

If at any stage you require additional information from any of your children's teachers, please note that they can be contacted by email. Your child's tutor will provide you with their email addresses at your appointment.

Finally, on another note, please make a date in your diary for our **Year 8 Options' Evening:** Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 18:30 starting in the Hall.

We look forward to seeing you.

Yours faithfully,

Sonia Taylor | Headteacher

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