(Current Y7 to Y10)

July 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been my pleasure to get to know your children since January. At the end of my first academic year here at Sandhill View Academy, I can say with great confidence that there is much to be proud of, whilst at the same time striving for continual improvement, until we are confident that excellence pervades all we do.

Some particular highlights of note include:

* Re-establishing our student council and getting an honest perspective on the day to day experience of our students
* Continuing in our drive to raise aspirations so that our students have the confidence and commitment to achieve their very best
* Successfully achieving the highest possible award for quality in Careers Education
* Successfully achieving the Mental Health Charter Mark bronze award (with a recommendation to apply for the next level based on the high quality of evidence provided)
* Updating our behaviour systems so that learning is always at the top of everyone’s agenda and to ensure that low level disruption is eliminated
* Investing heavily in staff development with a focus on making ‘Every Lesson Outstanding’
* Our annual celebration of students’ excellence during our House Awards Ceremony

I do hope that you have enjoyed reading the fortnightly blog, which aims to inform you on a regular basis of the wide range of enrichment and extracurricular events which make Sandhill View an exciting and inspiring place to learn.

Our improvement priorities for the coming year are as follows:

* Challenge and support to achieve the highest expectations for all students
* Enable high quality dialogue for learning
* Embed consistent, positive attitudes for behaviour and learning
* Develop a consistent and relentless approach to improving literacy

We value our strong relationships with parents and carers and appreciate any constructive feedback you can give which supports us in our drive for everyday excellence. Many parents ask how they can support their child with learning, the answer is very simple: please encourage them to read often during the holiday. Encouraging regular opportunities for reading at home has an incredible impact on learning and progress in all areas of school life.

Please continue to support us by ensuring your child attends school in the full, correct uniform, details of which are attached. May I also draw your attention to the following points which have been added for health and safety reasons:

* false/acrylic nails, and nail varnish are not permitted.
* chewing gum and energy drinks are not allowed in school and will be confiscated /disposed of if seen by staff. The only drink allowed in lessons is water (refillable bottles may be topped up in the school restaurant during the day if needed).

Please also find enclosed details of school terms, holidays and teacher training days, as well an outline of the school day timings for the coming year.

**FINAL DAY OF TERM – FRIDAY 19th JULY 2019**

Friday 19th July is the final day of this academic year. All students will be dismissed from the school site at 12:15 p.m. Due to these arrangements, there will be no hot food served during the lunch period. Packed lunches will be available for collection from the dining hall for all students who receive a free school meal, or who may wish to purchase one. Students must inform the kitchen manager in the dining hall directly by Monday 15th July of their requirement for a packed lunch on this final day.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START OF TERM IN SEPTEMBER 2019:**

Thursday September 5th:

* Year 7 students begin at 8:30 a.m.
* Year 8 to Year 11 students begin at 9:35 a.m.

The structure of the new Academy day is as follows:

* 08.30 a.m. start
* 03.35 p.m finish

Please note that the school day will finish at 2:45 p.m. every Monday to allow for staff CPD training and enrichment activities.

There continues to be a lot of excitement about the future for the academy as we enter our fifth year with the Southmoor Multi Academy Trust. We are also delighted to be welcoming our new 7 students who made an excellent first impression during our three transition days. I look forward to sharing further successes and updates with you during the new school year.

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming your children back to Sandhill View in September.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Maw

Headteacher