

8 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not allowed to be seen or heard in school unless a student has permission off a member of staff. If you need to contact your son or daughter during the school day, can you please do so via the school office. If it becomes apparent that a student has used a phone in school then it will be confiscated. This is a policy we have had in school for several years and is a policy that is on the website. You will have seen from the news that it is something very much supported by the Department for Education.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Vouchers for £30 per child will be provided in the usual way on Friday 22 December, to cover the two week Christmas break for those students eligible for free school meals. This continues to be funded by a grant via the County Council and is of real benefit to many of our families.

Eco-Explorer's Advent Calendar Food Bank Appeal

Please continue to support the food bank collection via mentor groups, which will continue for at least another week. It is good to see the donations that have come in so far.

Christmas Holidays

School will finish at 1.30 p.m. on Friday 22 December and the buses have been arranged for that time. We will alter the timings of the morning so that there is an extended break/early lunch at 11.30 a.m. and this will allow any student to get a warm snack. School will re-open at the normal time on Monday 8 January 2024.

Poetry Society

Thank you to 25 of our Year 8 students who have been working with a local poet and a number of Blackpool Sixth Form students. I hope they found the experience a really good one which further developed an interest and appreciation in poetry.

Mental Health

In the school there has been a real investment in mental health support. The 'Shine' Project, with two mental health workers on our staff funded by the NHS is going very well and their case loads are busy. I am delighted to say that in recent weeks 18 members of staff and 18 Year 11 students have completed an accredited mental health course. This is something we want to further develop moving forward so that more and more staff and students are equipped to recognise mental health concerns in themselves and others, and know how to signpost help.



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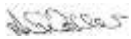
Headteacher Mr A Waller, MA, BA Hons
Deputy Headteacher Miss A Jordinson, BSc Hons

Finally

This week has seen the performance of our school production, 'High School Musical'. Congratulations to the many students and the staff involved. They performed for nearly 300 primary children on Wednesday morning and then had the first public performance last night with a second this evening. It is always fantastic to see so many talented young people enjoying themselves performing and bringing joy to others. Please come along and watch this evening if you can.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Waller
Headteacher