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11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Re: School Update (0094-21SRA)

When I wrote to you on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022, it was to outline the systems and structures that we would be putting in place on our return from the February half-term break. I am delighted to say that the pupil's response to the new systems and structures has been excellent and as a result we are seeing a very positive school environment both in and outside of the classroom.

Some of the many positives are listed below:

- As you know we are using AM form time as "standards setter" for pupils for the day ahead; the response has been excellent with the vast majority of pupils arriving at school on time wearing the correct uniform and carrying the right equipment, this means they are "lesson ready"
- There has been a huge decrease in the number of pupils that are late to school and to lessons. This ensures pupils get the optimum amount of learning time and are not distracting other pupils by entering a classroom late. *Please ensure your child arrives via the pupil gate by 8:45am each school day*
- More pupils than ever are receiving 'Excellent Knowledge' cards within lessons when showing a deep understanding of their learning
- Our offer of free toast from 8:30am until 8:45am has been very successful. Please remind your child about this. We also have additional food available at breaktime in further areas to ensure all those who would like food at breaktime are able to receive it
- As a school, we are running at 93% positive clicks when analysing Class Charts; we are moving in the right direction. The national average for this is 90%.

As well as improved behaviour and conduct, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some excellent events we have had in school and what we can look forward to next.

## World Book Day

World Book Day took place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - what a resounding success the day was. Staff were in great spirits, dressing up to engage pupils in lessons around their favourite book and upskilling pupils on different genres. Please ask your child which lesson they enjoyed the most and what books they would like to now read, following the day.

Reading doesn't only give pupils greater vocabulary; it helps with their academic grades. Studies have shown that those who read for pleasure have higher levels of self-esteem and a



greater ability to cope with difficult situations. Reading for pleasure is also associated with better sleeping patterns.

### **What to look forward to next?**

Comic Relief is taking place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022. We cannot wait to raise as much money as possible to support Comic Relief and to raise funds for the conflict in Ukraine.

Student Leaders are busy organising a variety of fun activities to take place throughout the day. **For a small donation, pupils and staff will be able to wear their own clothes, if they so wish.** At breaktime, there will be a bake sale, pupils are encouraged to donate cakes or treats for us to sell in the bake sale. In addition to the bake sale, Mr Thompson is having his hair and beard shaved off!

At lunchtime, there will be the opportunity for pupils to throw wet sponges at staff and there is a group of 'willing staff' who are going to have their legs waxed!! Pupils can also bring donations to join in a penalty shoot-out against Mr Thompson.

Throughout the week, there will be a raffle taking place with the chance to win a prize which has kindly been donated by 'Andy's Candy'.

### **Trips**

We are delighted to announce the return of educational visits. We couldn't be happier for pupils as we know how much they enjoy trips and how valuable they can be to accompany classroom learning. Last weekend, 43 pupils and 5 staff members went to the PGL Annual Netball Tour for a fun filled weekend. Pupils enjoyed two days of netball and activities such as, abseiling and zip wire. The trip was a fantastic success as Year 7 and Year 11 Netball teams won their tournaments. Look out for this feature in this week's newsletter.

### **Year 11 Exams**

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 11 pupils who are currently sitting their mock exams. They are doing a fantastic job and working extremely hard.

*Year 11... don't forget you can get free cereal bars from the canteen on a morning; book yourself on the free transport minibus to ensure you get in on time, and also attend your lunch time and after school intervention to ensure you get all the help you can for your mocks!*

Year 11 pupils will receive a mock results session on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022. During this, pupils will receive their mock result grades and have the opportunity of any mentoring they wish between 3:30pm and 4:20pm, after school. There will also be a treat available for Year 11 pupils during this session as a reward for their hard work.

I look forward to writing to you soon, informing you of the progress we are making.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S. Rawle  
Deputy Headteacher