

Ref: SNL\jr\UpdateLetter

10th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you have had a pleasant Easter weekend and your children have enjoyed the longer school break.

Actions from this letter

Book in for the Information Evening - there will be an extra session for parents whose first language is not English

Uniform check before school return on 15th April Check for timetable changes on Go 4 Schools or Arbor

Return after Easter

School returns on Monday 15th April with the gates opening as always at 8:15am and all students required to be on site by 8:25am. We return to Week A.

Please ensure that in these last few days of the holiday your child is ready to meet these requirements of our uniform policy on the first day back:

- Extreme hair styles are not permitted. Hair must be of a natural colour all over.
- False nails, gel nails and acrylics are not permitted.
- False evelashes are not permitted.
- Shirts should be tucked in and top buttons should be done up.
- If choosing to wear the tartan skirt, the length must be no shorter than 5cm above the knee.
- Skirts must be unrolled at the waist.
- Shoes should be plain black leather/leather-look. Trainers or vans are not permitted.
- Jewellery is limited to: a wristwatch, a single unobtrusive ring and a single pair of ear studs one in each earlobe).
- Students are not allowed to wear facial piercings at school. If, with a parent's permission, a student has had a facial piercing (nose, lip, eyebrow, upper ear), a clear retainer must be worn at school in place of the metal piercing.

Should students arrive at school with incorrect uniform/hairstyles/nails/jewellery/makeup, we will support them to correct their uniform by adjustments they can make themselves, loaning correct uniform or contacting parents to support. Students will not access lessons if they are not following our uniform policy. If you have any issues with your child returning in full uniform, please email contact@pmsc.school or the year teams on or before their first day so we can support.

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Start of Term Information Evening - Wednesday 17th April

We hold an Information Evening for parents and carers twice yearly, once in September and the next one takes place on Wednesday 17th April. This is for all parents and carers of years 7 to 11 students. These are important events in our calendar to give parents information on developments in the school and provide that opportunity for parents to engage as part of our community.

There will be talks at 4pm and 6pm including information on our summer trips day, careers and how we are building on our Ofsted inspection in September.

Importantly, on this occasion there will be time in between the talks for parents and carers to **contribute their voice** to reflections around uniform, progress evenings and the approaching 60th anniversary of the school. Please stay around after the first talk or arrive early for the second talk so you have the opportunity to contribute your views. Our senior leadership team will be available to support as we collect your views on these areas.

To book onto one of the sessions please follow this link. Please make every effort to attend so we can keep you informed and you can share your thoughts with us.

Timetables

Please check your child's timetable on Go 4 schools or Arbor as there have been some changes to timetables. All students will be issued with new timetables on Monday morning and the timetable will start as usual for the start of period 1.

Please particularly check for any changes to the timings of practical lessons where students need to ensure they have the right equipment or kit on the day.

Where staffing capacity has allowed, some students in year 9 who are not going to be studying a language in year 10 have been moved to humanities groups for the remainder of the year. This has not been possible for every student.

We return to Week A of the timetable.

Respect in the Community

As we enjoy lighter evenings and the weather improves, this is the time of year we have to remind students of how to conduct themselves outside of school in the community.

"Kindness" is one of our values and "respect" one of our expectations on behaviour.

Please can you make sure you know where your children are when they are outside of school and ensure they are not engaging in anti-social behaviour with others. We will remind students about not gathering in large groups and being aware of how that can feel uncomfortable to those in the vicinity. We will remind them about treating all members of the community with respect.

We run lots of after school clubs and encourage every student to join a club. Presently about half of our students are in school clubs.

Dates for the diary

17th April - Information evening

18th April - Community forum
23rd and 30th April - Year 10 History London Medicine trip
25th April Digital Schoolhouse Splatoon Grand final
7th May - Year 10 RE Comparative church visit
9th May - Colchester Athletics
9th May - Year 6 Information Evening
17th/18th May, 23rd/24th May - DofE Qualifying Expedition
22nd May - Year 10 Art & Photography Trip
22nd May - Year 7 Girls NEESA Football

We look forward to our students joining us again for the summer term ahead.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Neill

Headteacher