



PHILIP MORANT

SCHOOL & COLLEGE

Ref: SNL\jr\UpdateLetter

7th August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your children are enjoying the summer break. This is to update you on a few matters before school starts again in September. There will be further letters each week or two during the break.

Actions from this letter

New school skirts - check the design and contact the uniform supplier if a mock kilt has been sent.

Start of term dates Check the start date dependent on your child's year group

Share our open evening date with those you know with children in years 5 or 6 who are interested in finding out about Philip Morant School and College.

Note main meal price increase - for Parent Pay

Check out new bus service - between Stanway and Greenstead offering new services for students

Check out the knife crime awareness workshop

Return to school in September

In preparation for the start of the new school academic year, please see the details of the times and gates for students to come through on their first day back after the school holidays.

Year 7 and 12 start back on Tuesday 2nd September

Year 7 - arrive at **8:15am to go through Gate 1** (on the footpath)

Year 12 - arrive at **10.00am to go through Gate 3** (College gate)

Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 start back on Wednesday 3rd September

Please arrive promptly at 8.15am

The Rule of 3 attendance challenge

Consistent secondary school attendance is paramount for your child's academic success and future opportunities. Being in school every day offers invaluable learning experiences, building blocks for understanding complex subjects, and crucial social development with peers and teachers. Missing even a few days can lead to gaps in knowledge, making it harder to catch up and potentially impacting their overall progress.

To encourage this vital commitment, we will be setting students a challenge this coming term (September - Christmas): to take no more than three days off during this period. Students who take less than 9 days off across a school year will significantly improve their chances of higher academic outcomes.

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A study by the children's commissioner stated '**Children who missed the second, third and fourth day of a new term were predicted to have an overall absence of almost 45%, or 31 days across the term, significantly more than their peers who attended those first few days.**'

Please ensure you do everything you can, and ask for any support you need, to ensure your child is in every day of September **from the first day of term**, and of course as many as possible going forwards.

School skirt designs

We have been made aware of a manufacturing error on some of the skirts as mock kilts (non pleated front) were produced and sent out to some families. Our uniform supplier has worked with us and is being very supportive. They are asking any parents or carers to contact their Customer Support Team and are offering to exchange any mock kilts for the correct skirts. If there are any delays in getting this done before the start of term we are advising students to wear the one they have been sent until the replacement arrives.

School catering - main meal price increase

To cover the increased cost of supplies we have had to make the decision to increase our main meal charge from £2.45 to £2.50. This still represents good value for money for a main meal at school which continues to remain a popular choice across all year groups. Please can you note this slight increase when you are uploading funds to your child's ParentPay account as this will take effect from September 2025.

Open evening for year 5 and 6 parents, carers and children

Booking is now open for our open evening on Thursday 18th September. Please share this with any contacts you have who may be interested and if you have another child joining us, please book in for them to discover the school for themselves. The evening is always very busy so please make sure you book using [this form](#).

New bus route availability - Greenstead to Stanway

Arriva have launched a new bus service that runs between the Greenstead area through the city centre and along Lexden Road now offering a viable alternative to the sometimes very busy number 1 bus whose route goes up the Maldon Road. This means students could get off the bus on Lexden Road and walk through to school along Norman Way and into the footpath. It is called the 3 Greenstead to Stanway bus route and the full details can be found here:

Arriva Bus UK <https://www.arrivabus.co.uk/find-a-service/3-greenstead-to-stanway>

Free online Knife Crime awareness delivered by the Ben Kinsella Trust

The Ben Kinsella Trust is delighted to offer parents and carers a free 2-hour online session which will take place on the 27th August 2025 starting at 6.00pm. This aims to raise awareness and increase young people's safety and they are trying to reach as many families as possible.

If you are interested please click on the link for more details to book your place:

[The Ben Kinsella Trust - Parents and Carers - Helping our Children Stay Safe | 27th August 6-8pm](#)

We look forward to seeing all our students in September.

Yours sincerely

Sneil

Mrs S Neill
Headteacher