



PHILIP MORANT

SCHOOL & COLLEGE

Ref: SNL\jr\UpdateLetter
13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have had year 10 students visiting the Essex Science exhibition, music students have travelled to the Colne for a creative music workshop and year 7 have been to Norwich to watch 'Hamlet'. We also celebrated with the school production team on receiving an amazing review from the National School Theatre Awards.

Actions from this letter

Note the change of Summer concert date to 1st and 2nd July

Save the dates - school photographs year 11 on 27th March and years 12 and 13 on 26th March

Complete the belonging and engagement survey

Note the return to normal gates for year 9 and year 11 and finish times on the last day of term.

Year 11, 12 and 13 photographs

We will be arranging school photographs for years 11, 12 and 13 in the last week of the term. Year 11 will take place on Friday 27th March and years 12 and 13 will take place on Thursday 26th March. Further details will be sent out next week including the registration link.

Parent survey on Belonging and Engagement

We would really appreciate your views by completing a survey that looks at improving how our students feel about their belonging and engagement in school. Examples might be what other clubs, trips, rewards or support we could explore in order to ensure that every child feels they can belong and thrive in school during their secondary education. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey so we can gather as much feedback as possible to shape our future plans. <https://forms.gle/B9zwcZsG8GLHct426>

Uniform reminders

Our Pastoral teams have been speaking with a larger than usual number of students regarding their uniform. Please can we lean on your support to ensure that your child is meeting these requirements of our uniform policy:

- 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 eyelashes are not permitted.
- If choosing to wear the tartan skirt, the length must be no shorter than 5cm above the knee.
- 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.

Philip Morant School and College, Rembrandt Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 4QS **Headteacher: Stephanie Neill**
Tel: 01206 545222 Email: contact@pmssc.school Web: www.pmssc.school

Philip Morant School and College is a member of the Sigma Trust, registered in England and Wales, Company no. 07926573
Registered Office: Walton Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 6DZ



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.**

Changes to support funds for families

We have received a reminder for parents and carers from Essex County Council that there are no more free school meal supermarket holiday vouchers. The upcoming Spring holiday will be the first end of term holiday with no vouchers since 2020.

Essex County Council is recognising that this change may raise questions from families, and so wish to reassure families that support for vulnerable households will continue and will be delivered through new arrangements and via a new fund. The Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) will launch on 1 April 2026. This fund is designed to support low-income households facing sudden financial pressures.

[Read the full letter from Essex County Council](#)

Summer concert - change of date

Due to other events please note the new dates for this year's summer concert which will now be 1st and 2nd of July. The key dates for the academic year have been updated.

Change of gates

Now that the mock exams are complete, year 9 and year 11 will revert back to their normal entry gates.

Last day of term

A reminder that on Friday 27th March the school will close early for the last day of term. Normal lessons will take place for all four lessons and so it is essential that all students attend. Further details will be in next week's letter. **Years 7 and 8 will depart at 1:10pm and remaining year groups at 1:15pm. An extended food service will be available at break.**

Key dates for the academic year - [Key date list linked here](#)

2026-2027 academic year term dates - [26-27 Term dates](#)

Thank you for all your support and we wish you a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Neill
Headteacher