

Ref: HWH/NLE/whlsch/parents

15th May 2008

Dear Parent/Carer

As we work our way towards the end of the half term, there are a number of issues I would like to bring to your attention.

Key Dates

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| • Saturday 17 th May | Charity Concert – 7.30pm School Theatre (tickets from main reception) |
| • Friday 23 rd May | End of school – break up for Half Term |
| • Monday 26 th -30 th May | HALF TERM |
| • Wednesday 2 nd July | Year 6 Primary Transition Day |
| • Thursday 3 rd July | Year 11 Prom |
| • Monday 7 th July onwards | Year Sports Days and Celebration afternoons (further details to follow) |
| • Wednesday 23 rd July | Last day of term/academic year |

Examinations and Reports

Year 9 students took their SATs last week and we are grateful for the support and encouragement of their parents.

We are also moving heavily into GCSEs and AS/A level examinations and would ask all parents to support us and the students in following the guidance which has been issued to all candidates. We will also have a programme of internal tests/assessments for students over the next few months.

Parents will be receiving year reports before the end of the academic year and further information will be sent to you shortly.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in sending the children to school in the appropriate dress. It is important that we continue to work together to maintain a uniformed school even with the challenges of the weather. We continue to ask for your support in this matter.

Foundation Status

Following our formal consultation process Governors considered feedback and comments in respect of the school changing to Foundation Status. All comments from parents were noted, considered and Governors debated the matter. We will be moving forward to adopt

Foundation Status on the 1st September 2008. Thank you to those who contributed to our consultation process.

School Day from September 2008

We recently published information to change the current school day from September 2008 and provided an opportunity for a Parents meeting to share views on this matter. Thank you to those that were able to attend the meeting and for comments offered. Governors have approved the change which will take effect from September 2008 and details will come to you shortly. They also approved the school having a period towards the end of the summer term of trialling the new day in order to prepare staff and students for the changes in September. Further details will be sent to you shortly for all matters relating to the next academic year (September 2008) in an information booklet – TVS September 2008.

Access to/Exit from School

We continue to work hard to try and support the students in arriving and leaving the school safely. A new path, next to the main drive, will be established next week and over the half term break. **Next week (from Monday 19th May) work will start on the new path and will affect vehicles accessing the main school drive. We will still need to use the drive for students leaving the site at the end of the school day and would ask all parents who currently come onto the school site in a vehicle to avoid driving onto the site during this period. We appreciate that this will be a challenge for all of us but ask for your consideration in helping us to maintain the safety of the children. The new path will be fully operational after the half term break.**

Thank you for your continued support and please be aware of a number of letters/information packs over the next half term.

Yours sincerely



H W Howe CBE
Head Teacher