



# HASTINGS HIGH SCHOOL

*Care and Excellence for All*

## WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been great first day back. The pupils have settled back in really well and the new year 7 uniform looks fantastic! It is much smarter than the old uniform and much more in keeping with the school values.

### **Uniform for Years 8 to 11**

Just a reminder that pupils in years 8 to 11 can wear any combination of the new and old uniform but we expect everyone to be in the new uniform for the start of the next academic year. We have put in this transition period based on parental feedback to minimise any extra costs.

We would also like to remind parents that large buckle fashion belts and tight short skirts are not appropriate for school.

### **Nut Allergies**

I would ask that parents exercise care and consideration towards pupils in school with a nut allergy when planning the contents of lunch boxes. We have a number of students who have severe nut allergies and can be seriously affected by someone else who is eating – or may have recently eaten – nuts. We would kindly ask for your support on this important medical issue.

Please note that although we are striving to be a nut-free school, it is impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises.

### **Race for Life**

Just before we broke up the whole school took part in a Race for Life around our fields. We raised over £900 for cancer research! Thank you to everyone who took part and donated so generously.

### **Great North Run**

Mr Steve Shipman (Deputy Head) and Mrs Claire Hardman (Assistant Head) will be running the Great North Run on the 9th September. They are both running for charity; Mr Shipman is running for the Bodie Hodges Foundation and Mrs Hardman for Marie Curie. At the end of each assembly next week there will be a collection which will be divided equally between the two charities. If you would like your child to donate please send them with some spare change w/c 3/9/18.

## **Mobile Phones**

Over the summer we have reviewed the school policy about Mobile phones being used in school. To create the most productive learning environment we have decided that there should be no mobile phone use on site unless under the direct and close supervision of a member of staff. This means that pupils will be asked to turn mobile phones off as they walk through the gate and not turn them back on again until they leave school each day. Any child seen with a mobile phone turned on will have the mobile phone confiscated until the end of the day. These rules include social times such as before school, break and lunch.

## **Punctuality**

Whilst the punctuality of our pupils is usually very good we would like to remind parents of our lateness procedures. From the start of term we will be recording when pupils are late to lessons and noting how many minutes late they are. These times will be added up and late detentions on a Friday afternoon at 3pm will be issued. Initially we will be monitoring the start of the day, lesson 3 (after break) and lesson 5 (after lunch) whilst all the pupils get used to their new timetables.

## **New Staff**

Just a quick reminder about the new staff who have joined us this year:

- Sally Elsworth (Business) – Sally is taking over as Head of Business and has been highly successful in a similar position in her previous school
- Jess Green (Geography) – Jess was Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) of the year in Nottinghamshire in 2015
- Emily Johnstone (Science) – Emily trained with us at the start of last year and did exceptionally well
- Jess Brophy (French). Jess also won an award as an NQT in 2016 and has taught very successfully at a similar school
- Jacob Kavanagh (Maths) – Jacob is a newly qualified teacher who did well on his training placement
- Laura Lee (Science) – Laura is a very experienced teacher of science
- Isobel Baird (Learning Support) – Isobel is a qualified speech and language therapist
- Dr Peter Grzeszczyk (Science) – Peter is a very experienced teacher of physics who has worked with us before

We have also welcomed back Kirsty Abercrombie as Head of French after her maternity leave.

## **Thank you!**

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Nick Goforth, Head of Hastings