

4th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back from the October half term break, I hope you and your family have been safe and well. We return preparing for Remembrance Day and we look forward to being able to see the whole school out honouring those who gave their lives for our freedoms in the 2-minute silence on Monday 11th November. It is an impressive sight to see the whole school in silence lined up on the courts showing their respect and this year we will lay poppy wreaths that will have been made by the students.

We have been so impressed with how positive and engaged all students have been in their studies during the October half term. We are confident that the hard work and dedication that all students have shown will be demonstrated during the upcoming assessments for our key stage 3 students (week beginning 4th November) and Mock exams for Year 11 students (week beginning 18th November). We understand how important doing well is for your son/daughter and they may become stressed during exam periods. Please can you advise your son/daughter to talk to their teachers, form tutor, pastoral Assistant Head of Key Stage, or any other trusted adult if they need anyone to talk to during this exam season.

We are particularly conscious of how stressful GCSE year can be for our Year 11 students. We will continue to support your son/daughter to manage their anxieties, particularly during their Mock exams. For this reason, we will suspend period 6 for the week commencing 18th and 25th November 2024. We will then return to compulsory period 6 for all year 11 students each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday week commencing 2nd December 2024.

To help keep you informed about what your child is learning in each subject, you will find the information on the curriculum plans for each subject for this upcoming half term on our website. To support this further this year we have two parents evening for each year group throughout the year. It was lovely to see our Primary, Year 7 and Year 11 parents at their first parents evening last half term. The feedback from the parents who attended has been incredibly positive and we can see how helpful the teachers' advice has been to you all. We now look forward to seeing year 10 parents on 14th November 2024, Year 9 parents on 5th December 2024 and year 8 parents on 12th December 2024.

It is important to us that we provide a wide range of experiences for you and your son/daughter to get involved in together, to make their time at Bournville a memorable one. There are so many more events planned for next half term that will provide fun activities on the lead up to Christmas e.g. in aid of anti-bullying week we will be doing "Odd Sock Day" on 12th November 2024, Children in Need (15th November 2024) where we will attempt to collectively do a 500 mile walk over that day, the Christmas Fayre (3rd December 2024) and our Hansel and Gretel performances (10th December 2024 matinee performance and 11th December 2024 evening performance). There continues to be a series of before and after school clubs which will compliment what your child is studying, please see attached for more information.

There are a few trips and careers opportunities planned which include a visit to Newman college for year 10 on the 10th December 2024 and Mock interview day for Year 11 on the 17th December 2024. We will be running our usual Christmas card competition to choose our Christmas card design so watch out to see if your son/daughter's design is voted for this year's Christmas card. As you can see it will be a busy half term that will end with Santa Clause's annual visit to our primary aged students and the school will break up on 20th December 2024 for Christmas holidays.

Once again, can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support as we collaborate to make Bournville school a great school. Our parents' forum continues to meet every half term, please do feel welcome to come along, your input is invaluable.

Best wishes



Miss M Rooney
Principal

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