



11 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Wow, what a start to term! We are now six weeks in and it has been as busy as ever. We are currently putting together our first edition of The Helstonian, celebrating some of the great things our great students have been getting up to. This will be sent to you before half-term.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the "Parent Information Evenings" in the first few days of term. If you were unable to make it, there is a 15-minute video on the website that includes a few important updates and reminders. If you could find time to watch it, please do so via this link - [Parent Guide and Video 2024-25](#)

Raising the Bar

The term has started really well. Students' attendance has risen again when we compare it to this time last year, but there is a noticeable drop on Fridays! On average about 20 fewer students attend on a Friday compared to the rest of the week. This is something we will be monitoring closely, so if you notice that your child struggles to come in at the end of the week, please let us know to see if we can help in any way. I am pleased to also let you know that the number of students completing the positive side of their consequence cards continues to rise! All of this is positive news, but I am still ambitious for more. We have such a lovely cohort of students in the College - I know they can do so well and want them to challenge themselves, work hard and try new things. Hopefully you have seen our extra-curricular programme by now - please encourage your child to attend a club, or at the very least try one out. If you haven't seen it please see our website here - [Extra-Curricular Programme](#)

Uniform and Equipment

I have to say, I have been really pleased with students' uniform since coming back. Although we continue to battle with some skirts being worn too short, the vast majority of students look very smart walking around the College. Please remember though that socks should be black and if wearing a jumper, it must be a College jumper with the badge. Please can I ask that you check your child has all the equipment they need. We still have too many students not coming in with a full set of equipment. This will be a focus over the coming weeks.

iPad Roll-out

As you will be aware, we have started to hand out iPads to the students. Most of Year 11 now have them and the other year groups will follow very soon. There are certain apps installed on the iPads that we will be using in College. These will not only help with our teaching, but also enable the students to access what they need at home to support their learning. It is a really exciting long-term project that will help develop the quality of education and future-proof the students in the digital world we now live in.

Inset Day – Monday 4 November

Just a reminder that due to the INSET day on 4 November, students will return to school after the half term on Tuesday 5 November.

Policies

Please be aware that all our policies are regularly reviewed and updated. For the latest policies, please visit our website. Please note that some of the policies are Trust-wide policies which can also be accessed via the school website [HCC/TPAT Policies](#)

May I end by thanking you for all your support, working in partnership with you makes such a difference.

Please keep an eye out for The Helstonian, coming out before half-term!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Lingard'.

Mr A Lingard
Headteacher