



Friday 25th October

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been an exceptionally busy term at Alsom High School, and I have enjoyed learning more about the school and meeting many passionate staff and parents. This week I held a "Meet the Executive Headteacher Coffee Evening" and I was struck by your passion for the school. The key message is that you, as parents, would like me to ensure that we have high quality communication with you, and I am very aware we still have work to do on this. I will hold a further evening next half term, so please do come along and give me your feedback, both positive and constructive.

On that note, I am writing with some important news about the leadership structure at Alsom High School. Working with Omega Multi-Academy Trust, we have made an appointment for a new Head of School, Mr Peter Mee. We are delighted to have secured Mr Mee who has a track record of successful school leadership. Just to be very clear, I will remain here at Alsom as an Executive Headteacher and will work directly alongside Mr Mee to deliver our vision of creating an amazing school. Mr Mee will take oversight of daily operations in the school, including our behaviour and attendance drives, whilst I will focus on the strategic improvements to deliver outstanding teaching and work on the long-term plans for this school. We will leave no stone unturned in our bid to realise the potential Alsom has and make sure your children get the best possible experience with us.

I am very realistic and recognise that there is still much to do, but we have begun the journey and Mr Mee will help us take the next steps. He will be starting after half-term on November 4th, when he will write to you all to introduce himself.

As ever, we have reviewed and reflected on our practices at the close of this half-term and we will be resetting and reinforcing our expectations when we return after the break. Please note that all students will arrive as normal on their return, but we will start to hold extended line-ups in our new fire drill positions. This is something we need to practice and will continue to do so until it is perfect. When we leave school each day, we will begin a trial of students leaving via one exit, which is the Walton Village gate by the Rectory building.

In terms of your support, we need to remind all students that our PE kit must be worn on scheduled PE days. The PE kit is plain black tracksuits/shorts/leggings/skirts and an Alsom branded t-shirt or Alsom hooded top. Some students have started to wear their own PE wear, but we must insist they treat the PE kit as seriously as the days they wear blazers – pride in our uniform is very important to us. A reminder also that jewellery, such as facial piercings must not be worn in school.

We will continue to work hard to ensure there is a positive and warm culture at our school and we have revisited our Rewards Policy. After the break, we will move towards rewarding students via Bromcom and we will also be able to notify you via the "MyChildAtSchool" app. We will be starting the "Alsom Superstars Programme" where we will be rewarding the values and attributes that we want to see - further details will be sent out in due course.

You will also receive letters today about Year 11/13 mid-year exams.

Thank you all again for your ongoing support. We return to school at 8.20am prompt, on Monday 4th November.

J Kerfoot

Mr James Kerfoot
Executive Principal