

12 `July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we prepare for the holidays, I would like to extend my thanks to you for your support over the last year. We are very proud of the work that we do, but we cannot continue to improve our school without the support and backing of our families on issues such as expectations, standards and attendance. I am feeling hopeful with the recent change of government and new staffing in the Department for Education (including local MP Catherine McKinnell as Schools Minister) that we will start to see support for the education sector improving, as the constraints we work in do remain challenging.

It has been a busy end to the term. We have had a whole host of recent fantastic leavers and celebration events, as well as Year 11 and 13 Proms to celebrate the end of the students' time with us. Year 10 have been enjoying a successful work experience week, with many enjoying events and trips off site and Year 12 start theirs next week. We had 3 Year 10 nominees at the NTLT Awards celebration last night and we still have Sports Day and Rewards Day to come on Wednesday and Thursday next week.

As is usual at this time of year, we will be saying farewell to some of our staff as they move on to new roles in other schools or step into retirement. I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you to each and every one of them, for their commitment and dedication, hard work, and support they have given to all our students, in many cases over a number of years. I am pleased to welcome the following new teachers who will be starting with us in September.

Ms C Asquith (English)	Mr S Edge (Computer Science)	Mrs D Murphy (Head of English)
Ms C Bethell (Science)	Ms K Glabeke (English)	Ms G Murphy (Geography)
Mrs P Chaplin (AP Lead)	Mrs K Hay (Assistant Headteacher)	Ms L Ryan (English)
Mr J Chungh (PE/Maths)	Mrs Z Hopkins (Maths)	Mr J Shinner (Maths)
Mr D Clucas (Science)	Ms E Kearton (Geography)	Mr M Wilkinson (Year Leader 7-8)

Start of term arrangements

Wednesday 4th September 2024 - Start for Years 7 and 12-13 return to school Thursday 5th September - Return for Year 11 Friday 6th September 2024 - All year groups



Important forthcoming dates

A Level Results Day - Thursday 15th August 2024 (8.30-10.30am) GCSE Results Day & Sixth Form Enrolment - Thursday 22nd August 2024 (8.30-11.30am) Open Evening – Tuesday 24th September 2024

Our term dates and training days have also been confirmed for 2024/25 academic year. You can find them here <u>https://longbenton.org.uk/term-dates</u>

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at Longbenton High School, I would like to say a huge thank you for your continued support and help this year. As we head into the holidays, I know that many of you will have exciting things planned and ready for your families but I also appreciate that the holidays can feel long when things are still so expensive and you have children to keep occupied*. Our students often just need really simple things that don't cost anything: love, safety, attention and 1:1 time. I hope that you will be able to find space to be together with families and loved ones this summer (and that it stops raining!)

Yours faithfully

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Kelly Holbrook Headteacher

*We have a FREE summer camp running for anyone looking to keep children active and engaged in the first two weeks of the holidays; please contact Rob Thomson from Dallaglio RugbyWorks at rob@dallagliorugbyworks.com to secure a place.

