

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Gareth Morris (FCMI, FCCT, Chartered Mgr, MBA, MEd, NPQH, PGCE, BA (Hons))
Headteacher: Mr Paul Gray (MA)

18 December 2024

Dear parents/guardians/carers

Re: End of term arrangements

As the autumn term draws to a close, we would like to thank all parents for your support with foodbank donations, Christmas Jumper Day donations and attendance at Christmas events such as the craft market, carol service and our concert which takes place tomorrow.

On Friday 20 December, school will close at 12.30pm for the Christmas holiday. Please note the dining hall will be closed after break but if your child is in receipt of free school meals, they can opt to either purchase a full lunch at break time or they can go to the canteen between 12.30pm and 12.45pm.

Buses – The buses will run as normal in the morning. Please note: the on-site buses at 12.30pm will not be available. The M1 and M2 service will run from Poole Bus Station. Students who normally board the PM 405 can use the 25/26 services from Wimborne Road.

Driveway – The drive to school will be closed to vehicles on Friday 20 December in the morning as usual but also from 12.20pm to 12.40pm.

Support for our local community – A reminder that we require your support in ensuring that you select a safe location to pick up or drop off your child by car.

Houses – A reminder that our school house charities are:

Brownsea House - Julia's house - www.juliashouse.org

Green House - Dorset Wildlife Trust - www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk

Furzey House - Shout - www.giveusashout.org

Long House - Naomi House and Jack's place - www.naomihouse.org.uk

Houses continue to build their points through a variety of competitions, VIE rewards and competitive events from our **wide offer of extra-curricular** options. We are excited to announce that currently the House point totals are:



Congratulations to Long House!

Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2BW

Enrichment - Please continue to encourage your children to participate in the activities – both lunchtime and after school. There is a clear correlation between participation, self-esteem, confidence and achievement. Any small nudge to encourage your child to try to broaden their horizons is so important for their well-being. Thank you in advance.

Attendance – Student attendance is still a significant concern for the school and we are grateful for your support in ensuring that your child attends when they are able. In comparison 90% in a test is an excellent score, however with regards to attendance, this equates to half a day off per week. This in turn equates to 4 weeks absence in an academic year. Thank you to all parents who have worked so hard to instil a 'high attendance, high resilience' mind-set. Anything you can do to improve this, will enhance your child's future prospects.

The spring term will begin at 8.25am on Tuesday 7 January 2025. Please ensure that your child arrives promptly to school each day, in full school uniform and has a fully equipped pencil case including a calculator. Please also ensure that your child is compliant with standard school policies, particularly with regards to haircuts, piercings, jewellery and accessories e.g., fake nails/eyelashes.

As always, thank-you for working with us and your commitment to making our community the wonderful place it is. We wish you all a peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mrs V Stillman

Assistant Headteacher

Poole High School