

21 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of a very long term, I would like to thank you once again for your support. Your support has been instrumental in building our ambitious school community.

Learning Habit: Attendance and Punctuality

As we approach the new year, there is no better time to focus on achieving the best attendance and punctuality. The new year provides an excellent opportunity to establish strong habits and make firm commitments. Evidence consistently shows a strong connection between high attendance and positive GCSE outcomes, setting the foundation for a successful and happy life. Let's seize the opportunity in January to achieve attendance and punctuality excellence.

Chester Zoo Trip Y7 – 11

Over the past few weeks, our students have left a lasting impression on members of the public and zoo staff. I want to take this opportunity to thank the students and the staff for their efforts in making the trip a success. It is through these experiences that our students not only learn but also demonstrate our school values of positivity, ambition, resilience, and thoughtfulness.

End of Term Reward Assemblies

It has been fantastic to see some many students receive prizes for their effort in lessons, attendance, reading, and upholding our school values in everything they do. Well done to everyone who received an award this week.

Key Stage 3 Assessments week commencing 8 January and 15 January

Miss Clarke, our assistant headteacher, will be sending out more detailed information before the end of the term. Revision materials will be available on Class Charts. Please encourage your child to take the opportunity to enjoy the festive activities, but also set aside some time to prepare for the assessments when they return to school.

Family Fun night - Starting on Tuesday 9 January

As you are aware, we will be opening our doors for families starting on Tuesday, **January 9th, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** Our aim is to bring our school community together and will include a range of activities, including high-intensity interval training (HIIT) classes, trampolining, exercise to music, table tennis, climbing, and supervised activities for under 5's, all free of charge. We want to ensure everyone can participate in the evening.

We look forward to seeing you in the new year for a fun-packed night. Please contact our school games organiser, Mrs. Carys Barnes, for further details and to book your place.

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Parents' Evening Year 7 - 10

As shared in my previous letters, please find the dates for the Year 7–10 Parents' Evenings. For each year group, detailed arrangements will be sent to you. The timing of each event will be 4:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

Year	Date
10	Thursday 11 January
9	Thursday 25 January
8	Thursday 8 February
7	Thursday 29 February

Download Class Charts and support

To help you stay informed about your child's progress, we encourage you to download Class Charts, our online tool for tracking homework, behaviour, and achievement. This valuable resource will help you stay engaged in your child's education and provide the support they need. Please contact Mrs. Thomas for your log-in code.

sth@birkenheadparkschool.com

End of Term arrangements

As shared in my previous letter to parents and carers, we have arranged a festive fun day for **Friday**, **December 22nd**. This is also a non-uniform day; staff and students are encouraged to enter the Christmas spirit and accessorise by wearing something festive. Furthermore, school will also finish on this day at **12:30 p.m.** There will be no school bus at this time, so parents and carers will be expected to make alternative arrangements if their child normally travels on this service.

Start of Spring Term arrangements - Monday 8th January 2024

Finally, the new spring term starts at 8:35 a.m. **on Monday, January 8, 2024,** and we look forward to welcoming your child back to a happy, ambitious, and thoughtful school community.

I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Peter Mee

Head of School



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