



17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather really does feel more chilly, we are reminding students regularly about wearing coats and also about their journeys to and from school as it gets darker to ensure they are keeping themselves safe.

I wanted to re advertise our feedback survey for your views on the two week half term, please do complete this link here as we would be really pleased to hear your views.

<https://forms.office.com/e/VF5AUACMUz>

A reminder we have Year 7 Parents Evening on Thursday, please make sure you are booking your appointments using the letter that Mr Bonas sent out. We look forward to connecting with you.

We have been talking to students about our value of Resilience, which is our focus for this half term and particularly about what to do if they feel unwell. We have talked about what I will term 'Mild Illness' in assemblies - things such as sore throats, stomach ache, a cough, cold, period pains, pulled muscles and general aches and pains. We can support children feeling a bit poorly in school, dosed up in the mornings with medication if needed and we can also have medication in school for them to take during the day if needed - a form needs completing with the office for this. I have told children that if they are off sick they need to sleep and rest and see how they feel, and try to return to school the next day. We are hoping that this might help you in your mission to get your child into school, and that if we are all giving the same message it might help. There are of course seasonal bugs going round and if your child has a significantly raised temperature or sickness please do keep them at home to prevent transfer to others. These usually pass in 24-48 hours and we can support a return to school once well enough. Thank you for your support and for letting us know promptly if your child is not able to be in school. It helps us very much if we hear from you and don't have to chase absences.

We have been asked to share the attached leaflet by Suffolk Employment Office detailing the legal requirements for children if they are taking part in any part time work outside school. There are really clear guidelines in order to safeguard and protect children in employment, and work permits must be gained by employers for young people working. I think there is a lot of value in part time jobs for teenagers, teaching lots of additional skills - I know I gained a huge amount from working in a shop when I was 15 and the independence earning some money gave me.

As ever please do get in touch with us if there is anything you need.

Have a really good week ahead.

Best regards,

Vanessa Whitcombe
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe

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