



Dear Parents and Carers,

23rd May 2022

I hope that you have been able to enjoy the sunshine of the weekend, it has been lovely to see our Duke of Edinburgh students out walking in this lovely weather and practising their outdoor cooking skills ready for their expedition.

The warmer weather always brings conversations about school uniform and last summer we worked with students to put measures in to make things more comfortable and have since written this into policy.

Please see information below from our Behaviour policy.

Adjustments for very hot weather

1. No blazers will be required from after May half term until the end of the summer term.
2. In circumstances of extreme heat, the school will send out information regarding changes to uniform which may include the removal of ties or the introduction of wearing PE kit for school.

We will monitor the weather and make any decisions needed in good time.

We have water provided at school for all students, please can I encourage students to bring a filled water bottle with them in the mornings that they can then top up if needed. Although we do provide plastic cups if needed it is not environmentally friendly and we would much prefer students bring a refillable bottle with them.

Students have enjoyed some sessions with Vertas our school dinner provider who gave samples and took feedback about the food provided at school. This was received really positively and Vertas have already made some menu changes in response to student feedback.

We were so proud of students in Year 11 last week who worked exceptionally hard in the first written exams. Lots of smiley faces were seen following the exams testament to the hard work by students, staff and parents. If you have any questions or concerns about the exams season please do contact your child's teacher.

We are concerned about levels of attendance for some students, and although we understand that many absences are unavoidable due to illness and particularly COVID related isolation expectations, we still think that more can be done. This does include avoiding holidays in term time. We actively discourage this and do

Unity Schools Partnership is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07400386. The registered office is at Unity SP Offices, Park Road, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7YD.

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe



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issue fixed penalty notices. We see the learning loss and also impact on friendships and wellbeing when children miss extended time from school. We will be getting in touch with families to see how we can support further with regular attendance and making improvement to attendance in the weeks we have left of the school year. This also includes no notice home visits from our attendance team and leadership team.

If you have anything you need from our team at all please do get in touch. My email is VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk and we will aim to get back to you as soon as we can. If your concern is a safeguarding concern or urgent please telephone the school as emails are not always seen during the working day.

Wishing you a lovely week.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Whitcombe
Headteacher



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