



MIDDLEWICH HIGH SCHOOL

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KEITH SIMPSON BEd. *Headteacher*

12th September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

As usual, it has been a busy start to the new school year! The new Year 7s look very smart and are settling well into school life. My thanks to parents for ensuring that children arrive at school in their correct uniform, fully equipped and ready to learn.

GCSE Exam Results Summer 2017

Year 11 this year have excelled themselves and risen to the challenge of the new GCSEs. Students demonstrated resilience and determination, coupled with a positive frame of mind and the rewards are evident in their GCSE outcomes.

High standards in Core GCSE subjects have been maintained. Students achieved 79 % 9-4 grades in English. In Mathematics GCSE 62% of our students achieved a 4 grade or higher with 100% gaining the higher grades in Further Maths GCSE.

Sciences continue to excel with 95% achieving A* - C grades in Separate Science GCSE. The school's talent in providing a successful broad curriculum is reflected by A*-C achievement: 94% French, 88% History and 77% Geography, 81% Textiles, 81% in PE and 100% ICT CIDA.

Key Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 21st September – Open Evening for prospective parents and pupils, school closes at 2.15pm. School transport has been rearranged to collect pupils early. Any pupils who are helping during the evening are able to stay on site if required.

Friday 22nd September – Staff Development Day, school is closed to pupils.

Tuesday 26th September – Open Morning, school is open as normal.

Wednesday 27th September - Year 7 Tutor Evening

Friday 29th September – Open Morning, school is open as normal.

Wednesday 4th October - Year 7 STARS Launch (Able and Talented Programme), 5.30 – 6.15pm

Friday 20th October – School closes for half-term at 3.15pm, re-opens on Monday 30th October.

Staff

I am sure that you will join me in welcoming the following new members of Staff, and wish them every success as part of the school family.

Mr R Tidy – Teacher of Maths

Mrs V Forster – Teacher of Maths
Mrs M Palmer – Teacher of English
Mrs S Galvin – Teacher of Art

In addition to their Form Tutor, pupils will now be supported by the following Heads of Year:

Year 7 – Mr M Evans

Year 8 – Mrs K Lythgow / Mrs V Chisholm

Year 9 – Mr R Pearce

Year 10 – Mrs L Robinson

Year 11 – Mr M Priestly

Site update

We are pleased to announce that we have installed an external catering kiosk providing snacks in addition to the provision in the canteen which has been a great success with pupils.

Breakfast club continues to run each day from 8.00am.

A great number of projects have been completed over the Summer break to ensure that the school is maintained for our pupils and staff. I would like to express my thanks to all of those responsible for getting the site up and running and providing an excellent learning environment for our pupils.

Attendance

Pupils are expected to attend school regularly and punctually and will be responsible for completing any work missed during their absence. In the case of an absence, a telephone call should be made to the school absence line by a parent / guardian (01606 288170) prior to 08.50am on each day of absence. Any letter regarding an appointment signed by a parent or guardian should be given to Mrs J Burton, Attendance Officer in the main office.

Pupils who are late three times will serve a school detention, consistent lateness will lead to a Senior Leader's detention.

Those pupils who have 100% attendance will be entered into a termly draw to win vouchers of their choosing.

Parents / Guardians are reminded that absence for the reason of a family holiday will not be authorised. If you feel you have an exceptional circumstance you must submit a request in writing to Miss C Holmes, Assistant Head prior to making any arrangements or taking any absence.

Any concerns or issues should be directed to the Form Tutor in the first instance, these will be forwarded to The Head of Year or the Attendance Officer as appropriate.

School Uniform

Parents and pupils are reminded of the importance of attending school in correct school uniform. May I suggest that during the Autumn term all pupils bring a waterproof coat with them.

Any issues with uniform should be referred to the Head of Year or Mr Edwards. Spare items are available for those who are not in correct uniform.

Mobile Phone Policy

Any pupils with a mobile phone must have it switched off and stored out of sight (ideally in their bag) during lessons and between 8.50am and 3.15pm whilst inside the school building.

At the discretion of staff mobile phones may be used in lessons for learning purposes.

Any pupil found using their mobile phone in contravention of the policy will have it confiscated. Parents will then be informed by email.

Safety

We are presently reminding all pupils of the importance of road safety, together with their conduct on arrival and departure from the school. We now have two school buses and a high number of taxis accessing the site at the beginning and end of the school day. May I ask you to encourage your child to take extra care as we move into the darker mornings and evenings, and that whilst in uniform they continue to represent the school and its high standards. Please be advised that there is now a 20mph speed limit in force on the roads approaching the school.

Show my Homework

Pupils have now been given information regarding the 'Show my Homework' system. We will be providing pin numbers for parents / guardians to access pupil accounts in the coming days. This will allow you to keep up to date with your child's progress.

Emotionally Healthy Schools Project

We are now entering Phase 2 of the Emotionally Healthy Schools Project. Miss Holmes has been seconded to lead the project and will be available in school each Tuesday and Thursday.

We have launched a parent consultation line which will be available every Friday morning between 9am and 12pm. This provides an opportunity for parents to speak to an Inclusion Specialist regarding any concerns about the emotional wellbeing of their child. We will also be offering themed discussion sessions to help promote the emotional health and wellbeing of families. Please keep an eye on the school website for any updates.

School Website

The school website is presently being updated and this will be completed before half term. The school calendar remains up to date and any school news will continue to be communicated this way.

The school newsletter will be sent out electronically at the end of each half term. I would be grateful if you could ensure that we have an up to date email address so that you can receive this.

Future letters will be emailed to you. If you would prefer to receive a hard copy of letters, please let us know.

Education is a joint venture between school and home. As we work with our pupils we very much appreciate the support that parents give their children at home as they strive to reach their learning goals. The foundation of a successful school is the cooperation between the pupils, staff, parents and community. All of the staff at Middlewich High School look forward to a positive relationship with pupils and parents over the coming academic year.

Yours faithfully



Keith Simpson
Headteacher

