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Respect, Integrity, Self-Discipline, Courage, Gratitude, Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers

I think it is fair to say that this week has been somewhat different to normal! I know the process of any OFSTED inspection creates anxiety, and that became palpable amongst staff, pupils and parents, but the three defining words of our school 'Community, Collaboration and Challenge' were certainly evident throughout all areas of the inspection. We felt a real support from our community, with lots of kind words shared and the collaboration from colleagues within the Trust was excellent and a real asset to the school.

Due to the inspection this week, we had to move our Primary pupil led parents evening which was due to take place on Tuesday 19th March. This will now be on Tuesday 26th March from 15:45 until 17:00. Thank you for your understanding with this change. This event allows your children to showcase the work that they have done over this term and how much progress they are making. Again, due to the timing of the inspection, we felt to support teachers, we moved the deadline for reports to balance the workload over the course of this week, this will mean a two-day delay in getting these to you. You will now receive our amended reports which we have adapted following your feedback, on Thursday 28th March. We wanted to share reports before the last day of term, as you had raised this before, but teacher workload became a priority during the inspection.

Next week our Year 10s sit their English Literature mock exams in preparation for the real thing next term. We feel that allowing Year 10s to sit this paper early gives a sense of real purpose to developing exam skills, and also builds confidence as they begin to thinking about their Year 11 journey. When a selection of pupils sat these exams last year, their results were excellent and we are confident our Year 10s will likewise be successful this year.

As you know, we have gone to advert early for September 2024 posts to ensure we have strong fields to select from. This has so far not disappointed, with maths and science appointments. Today we are interviewing for primary teaching posts for September and next week we will be interviewing for a new SENCO role to add capacity to the SEND team to ensure we can develop rapid communication with families. Many of you may also be aware that the Thomas Hall School family will be growing shortly, with Miss Darbyshire expecting her first child. We will also be interviewing for an English maternity cover on Tuesday. We have also made some internal appointments to ensure we can add capacity as the school grows. Firstly, congratulations to Miss Speiss, who has been appointed as Lead Invigilator and data manager for our school. This is an important role in supporting the school during exam and assessment periods. We have also appointed Miss Lewis as our Head of Core for secondary, she will work directly with English, Maths and Science leaders and continue to improve the monitoring across the secondary phase. She will also be leading on the secondary homework strategy that was raised last week. Below is a summary of how this will be implemented.

Over the course of the coming weeks we will be welcoming the following colleagues to our school team. Miss Pool will be starting as a new Mealtime Assistant and Mrs Tachell and Mrs Yarwood will be joining our admin team, offering key support to the reception area and will be part of our effort to improve our day-to-day communication. We will also be welcoming three new invigilators to help with the summer series, Miss Chen, Miss Facer and Miss Crump.

HOMEWORK - Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4

Homework is set using the Google Classroom platform. Some subjects use Seneca for homework and where this is the case, links to the assessment will also be published on Google Classroom.

YG	Maths – Set every Monday	English – Set every Tuesday	Science – Set every Wednesday.	All other subjects
7	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight
8	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight
9	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight

10	All GCSE subjects – x1 piece per week
11	All GCSE subjects – x1 piece per week

Special or additional needs:

For pupils with specific needs, a bespoke agreement regarding homework will be made between the SENDco, Teacher and Parent/Carer.

Please do continue to contribute to feeding back to the school. Each submission is read and where themes are appear, we look to develop key areas of improvement. I would like to thank you for the supportive points, particularly when gratitude towards staff has been raised, these all get acknowledged and celebrated with colleagues.

[Parent Feedback Form](#)

Yours sincerely,



Phil Arnold
Headteacher