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Dear Parents and Carers

Last week I opened my letter by commenting on the rather appalling weather, and this week it culminated in the chaos of Tuesday. I hope that you and your families were largely unaffected by the flooding. Our Early Years areas had the worst of it, but I am grateful for the collective effort by Miss Greaves and her team, along with Mr Tarr and his to get it up and running. It isn't perfect, but it is getting there!

We were delighted to welcome back Mrs Albertyn following her recovery; it is wonderful to have her with us again. I have also begun the interviews for our School Senate. For any students who were due to be interviewed on Tuesday, these will be rearranged for the same times, but the next Tuesday. What has been truly remarkable is the quality, maturity, and passion our students have shown during their conversations. We should all feel immensely proud of them.

Our assemblies this week have focused on Holocaust Memorial, an important opportunity to reflect on doing what is right, learning from history, and understanding the vital role we each play in showing kindness to everyone we encounter.

A huge well done to our Year 10 and 11 teams who represented the school at the South West Physics Challenge on Wednesday, they performed exceptionally well. We also had a group of students enjoying a two-night residential at the Calvert Centre, and I know they will return with some wonderful memories. Next week, we look forward to welcoming back Mrs Banks, and we are very glad to have her returning to school.

Upcoming Dates

- **Week beginning 2nd February 2026** – Assessments for Year 1. If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher.
- **3rd February** – National Child Measurement Programme visit for Years R and 6.
- **13th and 23rd February** – School INSET days.
- **Week beginning 23rd February** – Year 11 mock exams begin.
- **26th February** – Year 7 Parents' Evening.

Parent Feedback

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thank you for your feedback, both on the night and through the online form. We are taking all comments into consideration. We are currently finalising the Year 9 options process in light of the Government Curriculum Reforms, and we are exploring a similar style of parents' evening for Year 9. Your suggestions have been extremely valuable.

Toilets

I have met with the daytime cleaning team and continue to remind them of the importance of keeping all areas clean. We will keep working with everyone involved to ensure standards remain consistent.

Home Learning

Thank you for your comments regarding home learning. We are reviewing this area continually and will be

monitoring how it is checked and supported during afternoon tutor time.

Feedback form

<https://forms.office.com/e/mhQRPsh3NW>

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Arnold', written in a cursive style.

Phil Arnold
Headteacher