

January 2023

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Dear All,

I would like to begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. Hopefully you were all able to have a restful and happy Christmas break.

A new year brings with it new opportunities and some changes to our team. We have appointed a new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Martin Newman, who joined us this year to lead on 'Culture and Personal Development'. This role is very important to our plans to continue to implement our vision of raising aspirations for our children, and to ensure that they are well prepared for life within and beyond school.

Early in the autumn term last year we set out our vision to raise expectations and standards of learning, including our commitment to a high quality of education. Our curriculum is strong and progressive and we are proud of the work that has gone into strengthening this. The 6th Form has also improved significantly both in terms of its provision and resources and the outcomes that students achieve when they study with us.

We re-launched our behaviour systems in September last term, and have changed our communication system to enable you to get more information about rewards and sanctions. It is important to us that you know when your child is doing well, and when your child needs support from us as a school and from you at home, to uphold high expectations of behaviour and culture.

This term we are going to be asking you for your thoughts on our values as we re-launch 'The CTA Way' to our children and families. We are keen to involve you all in this process and hear your ideas. The students will play a significant role in the leadership of this work, alongside Mr Newman and the pastoral team. Our staff and governors are also going to be consulted as part of this process. Please do get involved when these surveys are sent out – we will send the link on MCAS (My Child At School) and the link will be put on the website.

Finally, with the cost of living crisis and subsequent difficulties that our families continue to face, we have extended our Food Bank provision and have set up a 'Community Hub'. We have items of washed preloved uniforms, including for 6th Form blazers, as well as stationary and items that may be useful to parents and families. If you have any items of uniform that your own children have grown out of, we would be very grateful for any items. In addition to this we continue to collect for our foodbank so if you do have any non-perishable goods or staple foods such as pasta that you would be willing to donate, again these would be very much appreciated by our community. The food bank serves all of our families that need it so please do pass on our details if you know there is a neighbour or someone you know that is in need.

Kind regards,

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Ms N Mason Headteacher