

Friday 3rd February 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Changes update

Thank you everyone for encouraging your child(ren) to embrace the changes we are trialling. The school is a little busier than we are used to at break but, crucially, when break is over the corridors are quiet. The centralised detention system is working well to deter a small number of students from getting behaviour points. What's very pleasing is the parental support we have received with students who do earn a detention. Almost every parent is fully behind the school on this – thank you.

Household Support Fund

We have the opportunity to make applications on behalf of our families to receive a one-off payment in the form of a food voucher to help support with the cost of living. The voucher is for £65 per household plus an additional £20 per dependant. The vouchers are being funded through Staffordshire County Council and the DWP. There are no restrictions or impact on any benefits, and you do not have to be in receipt of benefits to make an application as it is a one-off payment. If another professional has already applied on behalf of your family, you cannot apply again. In order to process the application, we need to collect some information from you and share with you a data protection agreement. If you are interested, please contact office@phs.jtmat.co.uk marked for the attention of Mrs. Deer.

School shoes

I would like to remind all parents about the school's uniform policy specifically around shoes. The policy states that only *'plain black standard leather style shoes'* are acceptable. The policy also states that *'Pumps, trainers or trainer style shoes (often displayed in the school shoes section of shops) are not permitted. No boots, higher than ankle high, or shoes with high heels should be worn'*. We will be doing a shoe check on Monday morning (6th February) and parents will be informed if their child(ren) is wearing incorrect footwear. Thank you to the overwhelming majority who always come to school in the correct uniform.

Excellent attendance

Thank you for your support with ensuring your child(ren) is in school as often as possible. As a minimum, all students should strive to reach 96% attendance. I know that some young people are contending with serious health concerns but those who aren't should be able to be here every day.

Plastic bottles

Reminder – we have banned single use plastic bottles from school. Students should have a rigid plastic or aluminium bottle which they can refill at school.

Next charity day – non-uniform day



On Friday 17th February we will be having our next charity day. It will be a non-uniform day in support of two organisations that have helped members of our school community deal with bereavement over the last few months. 'Tilly's Voice' mental health and wellness CIC believes in the importance of recovery for people suffering from Mental health and well-being issues. SSAFA - the Armed Forces charity - is a trusted source of support for serving personnel, veterans and their families in their time of need. To

help us support these two organisations, students should wear non-uniform for the day and bring in £1 that will be collected in the morning. Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the day.



Comic Relief – Friday 17th March



For the first time in a long time, we will be taking part in Comic Relief Day this year. I will be meeting the School Council next week to gather ideas and start to plan. The noses are paper based this year which means less plastic waste – Paulet approves! If you have any ideas of fun activities we can do or ways you can help us, please email the school.



As always, thank you for your ongoing support of our school and your child's education!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'Ian McArthur'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'I' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ian McArthur
Headteacher.
#WEAREPAULET