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Tuesday 24th June 2025

Dear Families,

As we approach the final weeks of this academic year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and partnership. Particularly your warmth and generosity in welcoming me as the school's new Principal, since November 2024. We've continued to make strides to ensure our students thrive - academically, socially, and personally - with this being recognised in the powerful milestone of our first Ofsted report as a Dixons school earlier in the year. The report recognised that this is "...a school transformed...", it's a privilege to have joined the school at this time to lead the school into even great success for our students.

I'm writing to share several important updates as we look ahead to the summer and the new school year.

Uniform Update

Following extensive consultation with students and families, we are **updating our uniform policy** to better reflect our shared values and community voice. Full details, including guidance and supplier information, can be found on our <u>website</u> (which includes video explanations to support)

Change to the School Day

From September 2025, our **shorter school day will move from Friday to Thursday**, with students finishing at 2:15pm. This change supports deeper curriculum coverage and ensures our staff can continue to access high-quality professional development - ultimately benefiting every child in our care by making sure our staff develop, learn and grow; just as we aim for our students to.

New Payment System Launch: MyChildAtSchool (MCAS)

From the start of the new academic year, we will **no longer use ParentPay**. All payments - including meals, trips, and other purchases -will be made via the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) app. We strongly encourage all families to download the app (if you haven't already) now to ensure a smooth transition. More information is available on our <u>website</u>. This is also a part of our wider commitment to communicate more clearly with a single source of all information. In time, we will use the app for all communication.

Culture Day - Friday 18th July

We are thrilled to be hosting our annual **Culture Day** on the final day of term. This joyful celebration of our community's rich diversity allows students to wear cultural dress and share items of significance. More details will be shared with students and families in the coming weeks to give families clarity of how to prepare for this exciting day.

End of Term Arrangements

The final day of this academic year is Friday 18th July. Students will finish at 12:30pm, following our Culture Day celebrations.

Start of the New Academic Year

We look forward to welcoming students back in their new full school uniform on the following dates:

- Monday 1 September Year 7 and Year 11 (current Year 10) only
- Tuesday 2 September All students return (inc. Y13)
- Gates open at 8:00am as usual we look forward to seeing everyone in their new uniform!

Thank you, once again, for your unwavering support. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch by contacting us at info@dixonsba.com.

Kind regards,

Adam Samy

Principal