

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the half term is coming to its close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support through what has been a positive start to the new academic year.

We appreciate that the past 18 months have been unusual times for all of us, and our students have demonstrated tremendous resilience. This term we have returned to a more 'normal' way of operating in school, and we are very grateful for all of the efforts our families have made to underpin a positive return to school for our students. It has been fantastic to celebrate many of the successes our students have achieved so far, and we look forward to continuing this as the year progresses.

### **New Staff**

We have continued to recruit additional staff this half term and are pleased to say that we have made several appointments.

This half term we have welcomed Mrs Cole who has joined our Science Faculty as a Science Technician, and Mrs Okerecke who has joined our Maths Faculty.

Following the half term break we will also be welcoming Mrs Raynor to our English Faculty. Mrs Raynor has many years' experience as a senior leader in school, and will be a fantastic asset to our team of English teachers.

These new colleagues will further strengthen our team and will enable us to provide your child with additional support and learning opportunities.

### **Uniform**

Thank you to everyone that has ensured their children attend school in proper school uniform. It is important that students wear the correct clothing as our uniform helps to put all young people on an equal footing, supports the safeguarding of your children and creates a sense of school community.

As the weather begins to change, can we remind you that those students in the new uniform are permitted to wear a plain grey or blue V-neck jumper underneath their blazers. For those students in the old uniform, plain black sweatshirts are permitted. Students are not permitted to wear their coats during lessons.

If you need any clarification on uniform requirements or are having issues with sourcing school uniform please do contact your child's Head of Year.

## Next Half Term

The next half term is always one of the longest and a busy half term for many year groups.

Our Year 11 students will be working towards the mock exams in December, and we are writing to their parents to explain the different support mechanisms we have in place to prepare them for this important period.

This half term, students in Year 10 and 11 have already had presentations delivered by the Apollo 6<sup>th</sup> Form, and next half term they will be hearing from Stephenson College and other providers to learn more about different pathways and apprenticeships at Post 16. The following Open Evenings/Days may also be useful:

The Apollo Sixth Open Evening - 26<sup>th</sup> October (17:00 – 19:30)  
Loughborough College Open Day - 6<sup>th</sup> November (10:00 – 14:00)  
Stephenson College Open Day - 13<sup>th</sup> November (10:00 – 13:00)

Our Year 9 students will be starting to think about their next stage of education, and will begin the process of choosing their Key Stage 4 options. Choices won't be made until after Christmas, but students will be learning all about the options we offer throughout the next half term. Our Year 9 Parent's Evening on 2<sup>nd</sup> December will provide parents an opportunity to speak to staff about the different subjects, and we will be sending further information out regarding this evening nearer the time.

Many of our students are busy rehearsing for the annual Newbridge Pantomime, and this will be performed in December. The cast are already looking and sounding amazing and we will write to you nearer the time regarding further information and ticket bookings.

We also look forward to celebrating more sporting successes, it has been great to see so many students access our sporting extra-curricular provision, and see students represent our school.

We will be updating our social media accounts on a regular basis (Facebook and Twitter), please follow us to receive the regular updates but please be aware that the messaging function for these accounts is not regularly monitored, so please contact the school using the website or by emailing [info@newbridgesch.uk](mailto:info@newbridgesch.uk)

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a restful half term and, we look forward to welcoming all students back after the half term break.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Rowbottom  
Co-Heads of The Newbridge School



Mr M Gamble