



WEST HILL SCHOOL

Aiming High Since 1927

Headteacher: **Ms C Cronin (MA)**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Let me open with a warm welcome to those parents joining us within the West Hill family for the first year, alongside those joining us for another year. As the new Headteacher commencing this September, I hope that the welcome that yourself and your son(s) experience is as warm as mine has been. This truly is a special place. For me, our partnership is vital so I wanted to begin with some upcoming messages.

Pride

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our parental community for an excellent start with school uniform and preparation for school. The standard has been impeccable amongst the boys in years 7 through to 11. This pride in themselves is reflected in this week's attendance, their smiles and presentation of themselves and the welcoming and inclusive attitude of students this week. I thank you, and them, for this and ask you to continue with this support. I look forward to next week's assemblies with the boys whereby this positivity is echoed and key messages outlined to commence the year.

Communication

The 'School Gateway App' is our main form of communication here. We encourage all parents to regularly access the app which outlines your son's timetable, achievement points, behaviour points and messages that are sent from the school (messages that transfer to your nominated email address). Our school email is detailed at the top of the letterhead alongside our website for further links. If you wish to meet with a member of staff, we do ask that you schedule appointments via our school email system rather than arriving to school without an appointment due to the teaching nature of staff, if arrivals are unannounced, we cannot guarantee the member of staff is able to meet with you. Our school website will be relaunched imminently, so please do check in next week to view it. At present, our social media presence is solely on Twitter with our Twitter handle within our letterhead but within coming weeks we will be launching wider social media platforms as a school to ensure achievements of our boys and our school are shared within a range of platforms for our parental and wider community to celebrate with us. More details will follow. Lastly on communication, following from my opening paragraph I wish to grow our parent partnership. If you would be interested in attending school once per half-term to work alongside myself and our leadership team to work with us on our school developments, allowing us to hear parental views, please email the admin@westhillschool.co.uk account outlining your expression of interest. We will run a day time and evening group to make it as inclusive as possible for all parents and carers. Your voice and perspectives are invaluable, as are the boys', for driving us forward.

Key Dates in Autumn

Tuesday 19th September: School photographs for Years 7, 9 and 11 only.

Thursday 28th September: Open Evening for Year 6 parents. Early school closure at 2pm for all students. Charity fundraising and community events.

Thursday 19th October: Year 7 only. Parental form tutor consultation.

Monday 23rd October-Friday 27th October: Half-term.

Thursday 30th November: Year 11 parents' consultation evening.

Wednesday 20th December: End of term

Thursday 4th January: Students return to school.

In closing, I would ask that you share with us any achievements your son(s) attain outside of school. Our staff are heavily invested in our boys and we wish to ensure that we showcase all achievements. I am incredibly excited for our next steps forward with you, and your son(s).

Kind regards,

C Cronin
Headteacher