



2 November 2022

Dear parents and carers

Thank You and Sorry

Thank you for your continued support - we continue to receive lots of positive comments from parents and carers (and from colleagues at some of our feeder primary schools) about the start to this academic year. There is also more positive news; we have received our highest number of new Year 7 first preference applications for September 2023 in over 5 years. It is great to hear that the local community is recognising us as their school of choice. As previously mentioned, I have high ambitions for the College and we will continue to look at ways to improve in any way we can to ensure all of our students get the best education we can offer. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us achieve this, so please continue to let us know what is and is not working well from your perspective.

We are not perfect though and despite the good start, I would like to apologise if you have been receiving a high number of emails about trips and consent forms. This has caused confusion and frustration for a number of parents and carers. We decided to move to an online data collection form (including general consent for trips) to make collation of students' information much easier to manage. However, this has taken longer than expected, so we have had to issue additional consent forms for a number of trips that have taken place so far this term. In addition, for each individual trip further consents are required. As this has caused, understandably, confusion we are assessing the situation and will send out a letter next week to clarify exactly what is needed.

Iceland

I would like to say a huge thank you to Dr Ryan and the staff who went on the trip to Iceland during half-term. By all accounts it was a fantastic experience and made me very jealous! I look forward to seeing the photos and hearing more about it in our next edition of The Helstonian.

Anti-Bullying Week - 14 - 18 November

We will be running several events during national 'Anti-Bullying Week' to raise awareness of how to tackle bullying and the support available to parents/carers and students. This traditionally starts with 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday 14 November to celebrate individuality and diversity, so please encourage your child(ren) to come in wearing odd socks. We are also hosting an awareness event for the community on Tuesday 15 November from 2.30pm. Please come along if you are able to.

Children in Need - Friday 18 November

We will be fundraising for Children in Need this year with a non-uniform day on Friday 18 November. Donations can be made via ParentPay or by cash on the day. We hope that on the day students will be running a few of their own fundraising events, such as cake sales, so if they have any spare pocket money, encourage them to bring it in.

Y10 & 11 Revision Evening - 23 January

Please be aware that we have been able to book the excellent revision and memory expert Dr van der Spoel for some revision technique workshops on 23 January. During the day he will work with the students in Years 10 and 11, then there is the opportunity for parents and carers to attend a workshop in the evening. Further details will follow, however in the meantime, please note the date in your diaries.

Once again, thank you for your on-going support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Lingard'.

Mr A Lingard
Headteacher