

20th April 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to the start of the summer term and after the dismal weather it is nice to feel the temperature rising.

Inevitably the summer term is one where we focus in some areas on demonstrating how much progress has been made through the year which is never more apparent than for those Year 11 and 6 learners who have formal external, and sometimes life changing examinations. However, in all areas we will be looking to excite, enthuse and engage your children in their learning and seeing just how far they have come, and where they can go. Supporting young people is a team effort and I know your role as a parent and carer, in partnership with us is critical. I wanted to thank you all for the support, challenge and encouragement you give your children (and the campus) in being the best they absolutely can be. This is by no means easy. Being a parent or carer is demanding, frustrating and certainly emotional but please rest assured that all of your input and hard work really does make a huge difference. Increasing educational research is demonstrating the impact of parents and carers on the educational performance of their children. One school recently took the brave step of moving some Year 11 students who were underperforming, into the homes of those students who were excelling and the impact in this short period is fascinating and certainly worth a watch on the BBC iplayer at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b09z7989/living-with-the-brainy-bunch>

What do we know? Good routines for supporting additional learning at home (reading, making sure homework is done independently) are really helpful. In addition, consistent structure around meal times, bed times, use of social media etc are all beneficial as is talking about the learning and hard work needed to be successful and happy. If you want any more information around this, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school.

We have a wealth of opportunities going on this term, and you will be getting updates about these on a regular basis. We look forward to seeing you at the campus. For those of you with learners doing GCSEs or SATS please bear with them (and us!) – this is a challenging period but all your efforts, support, nagging and encouragement really is worth it!

Yours sincerely,

Peter Eyre
Executive Headteacher