

Executive Headteacher: Mr Gaughan
Headteacher: Mrs G Lynch
Boardmans Lane, Blackbrook, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 9BB

13th December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

On Friday the 20th December school will close at the earlier time of 1pm. The school bus will still be available at the usual time of 2.50pm but a place must be booked through your child's form tutor by Wednesday 18^{th.} If there has not been an expression of interest, we will inform the bus company that there will be no need for the transport to be provided.

On Friday the 20th December the students may wear a jumper or a Christmas item as well as their uniform for the last day, we are asking for £1 donation for Willowbrook Hospice or this year as an alternative, a donation of items for the Food bank would be most welcome.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the first term and we look forward to working in partnership with you throughout 2020.

To get off to the best possible start in January, we are asking that all students come fully equipped to school. This includes having a pencil case with two blue or black pens, a red pen, a sharpened pencil, ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener. A school bag is also essential to keep all equipment and books safe and in good condition throughout the year.

Please can I remind you of the uniform policy which clearly states that students are not to wear earrings, makeup and trainers during the school day and this needs to be strictly adhered to on return in January. Further details are available on the school website.

In addition I ask parents to take note of our policy on mobile phones and electronic devices. In common with the vast majority of schools, mobile phones must be switched off (not 'on silent') and out of sight completely from the moment pupils pass through the school gates in the morning to the moment pupils leave the school site at the end of the day, including any off-site trips. Any mobile phones seen or heard during those times will be confiscated. Confiscated phones are kept secure in school and pupils are allowed to collect them on Friday at 3.00pm, unless a parent comes into school before that time to collect a phone on their child's behalf.

There are good reasons for all of the above, many of them relating to health and safety or the detrimental effects on concentration and performance in school. Other reasons are about maintaining high standards.

Finally, we would like to thank those parents and carers who support us every day to achieve the best possible conditions for learning and progress. We wish all a happy and holy Christmas and look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year. Students will return to school at 8.45am on Monday 6th January 2020.

Yours faithfully

Mrs G Lynch Headteacher

