

Our Ref: TSI/CR

20th May 2010

Dear Parents,

I am starting this letter on the day that our Year 11 pupils begin their main block of final GCSE exams. I am sure we all wish them the very best for the few weeks ahead, possibly one of the most important and stressful times in their lives so far. Thank you for the way you support your children, both in school and at home, to achieve the very best that they can. We are all looking forward to celebrating the results of these exams when the pupils come up to school to collect them on the morning of Tuesday 24th August. There will be lots of staff on hand in school that morning to celebrate with the pupils, and to provide support and advice if they need it.

On Saturday 28th August the Year 7 Rugby League team will be playing at Wembley stadium. This is because they have won through to the Carnegie School's Rugby League Final, so will be playing Temple Moor High School, Leeds. This is the only schoolboy match to be played on the Wembley pitch; the match will be played as a curtain raiser to the Challenge Cup Final. I am sure that this experience will live with these boys (and their families) for the rest of their lives. Another great event will be when our Chamber Choir performs as part of the Senior Choirs section of the National Festival of Music of for Youth in Birmingham Town Hall on Tuesday 7th June. The group was selected from thousands that took part in the Regional Festival Series.

The last time I wrote to you it was to provide clarification of our uniform policy, particularly with reference to hair and makeup. I am delighted to say that the vast majority of pupils have responded magnificently to this. Thank you again for your support in this matter. The pupils have been bringing some great ideas to the School Council, about uniform and other matters. We have already been able to bring some of these ideas into practice and will certainly be looking at others over the coming months.

I am sure you can imagine that we get many phone calls into school every day. I can assure you that the office staff always pass these messages on to the relevant people straight away, usually by email. I would ask you, please, to be patient if you are awaiting a reply; most of the people concerned have a full teaching timetable, so it is often not possible for them to make return calls until lunch time or the end of the school day. It would help us a lot, when you call, if you could give our receptionist as much information as possible about the person you would like to speak to and some idea of the reason. This way she is likely to be able to help you by indicating when a return call might be made, or possibly by referring you to somebody else who might be available sooner.

/.....

As always, the Health and Safety of pupils and staff is a major concern of ours. For this reason I would ask that pupils are not collected by car from the school drive. Cars parked on the school drive will be asked to leave. You understand, I am sure, that the movement of any cars at the time when over 1000 children are leaving the site is putting them at unnecessary risk. If you drop your children off in the morning, please do so at the bus turnaround and do not drive up to the top. I also know that parking on the Leisure Centre Site is causing a problem for them, they are even losing money because people cannot park at the time when school closes. I understand that parking is very difficult in Dalton but would ask you to respect the businesses and residences around the school.

Finally, I wish you all well, until I write to you again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Sinton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mr A Sinton
Acting Headteacher