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Head Teacher
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Executive Head Teacher
Mrs S Paley *BSc (Hons), PGCE, MEd*



Friday, 10 February 2023

Letter from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

This short half-term has certainly been an eventful one. Nevertheless, our students continue to excel in all areas and I would like to thank you for your continuing support of our school.

At Toot Hill, we believe every student can achieve more than they ever thought possible. This is ultimately secured through a strong partnership between students, staff, parents and carers. Our high aspirations have their foundations in the highest of expectations for all of our students, and we secure these through your support.

It has been a delight to see very high parent/carer attendance at our recent parents' evenings. We are proud to be part of a special team that supports the best possible learning experience and outcomes for your child or children. We aim to continue to improve opportunities for you to actively engage in school life over the coming months and years.

Activities Week

Enrichment opportunities for all at Toot Hill are central to ensuring we develop all children way beyond our academic curriculum. Our after-school enrichment provision is certainly first-class, providing a truly broad and deep learning experience beyond our core timetable. However, we recognise we can still improve our enrichment offer, and so I am delighted to herald the return of Activities Week this year for Years 7 to 9. Year 10 students will conduct work experience during this week.

The week will take place during the last week of the summer term and will be officially launched early next half-term. Care has been taken to ensure that the events on offer are affordable, this is important to us during these challenging financial times.

Year 11 and 13 Exam Preparation

Our students in Years 11 and 13 deserve much praise for the dedication and maturity they are showing lessons and home learning. To support these year groups in their exam preparation we are running a large number of after-school sessions and I very much appreciate your support in encouraging your child to attend those that they can. In addition to this there are revision sessions taking place for Year 11 students during the half-term break and without doubt, there will be an increased revision programme during the Easter break..

NEU Strikes on Wednesday 1 March, Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March

At the time of writing, we await three further days of industrial action. I will endeavour to share our plans for each of these days the week before. Our priority, as always, is student and staff safety and so our plans will be guided by ensuring a high level of student supervision on site. I thank you for your patience in this matter and fully empathise with the disruption that industrial action can cause working families.

School Opening Times

We have recently seen an increasing number of students arriving very early to school, before we have satisfactory site supervision in place. I politely ask that parents and carers ensure their child does not arrive at school before 8 am. This still provides a wide window of arrival times, with all students expected to arrive and line up for tutor set by 8:25 am.

Finally, I wish you and your family a fantastic half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Eardley', written in a cursive style.

Dr C Eardley
Head Teacher