

Friday, 13th February

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have done lots of work this half term about making sure that we start the year positively. I'm really pleased with students' progress over the last six weeks – it has been great to see strong routines, excellent behaviour, and (despite the challenges of the awful weather throughout January and February so far) lots of smiles on their faces.

Attendance

Attendance has been good this half term, compared to this time last year. The table below shows this. Thank you for your support with making sure that you ensure your child attends every single day. A reminder, as we approach the Easter holidays, that term time holidays will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. I'm really pleased to announce that we received two awards for TCA's attendance during autumn term this week – one to say we were in the top 25% of schools in the country for attendance, and one to say we were in the top 10% of 'similar' schools. Everyone has played their part in this great achievement.

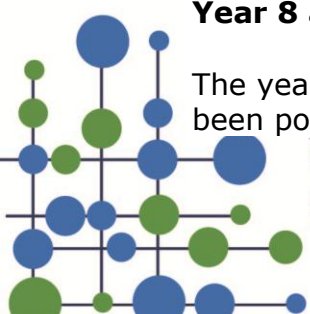
Year group	Half term 3 – last year	Half term 3 – this year
7	94.1	96.0
8	93.4	94.1
9	92.1	93.4
10	92.3	90.3
11	92.4	94.6
Overall	92.9	93.7

RE – year 10 course

We would like to inform parents and students that year 10 GCSE Religious Studies will be moving exam boards from Edexcel to AQA. Students will not be disadvantaged by this transition and will not notice any disruption to their learning. Mrs Halawani-Jackson's experience of this exam has been very positive and she has a wealth of experience in this area. If you would like any further information about this change, please email her at Hannah.Halawani@sharemat.co.uk.

Year 8 and year 11 parents' evenings

The year 8 parents' evening which was planned for Thursday, 26th February has been postponed. This has now been rescheduled to be on the same evening as



the next year 11 parents' evening – Thursday, 26th March. Booking information will be sent out to you by the Arbor app when it is open and available.

INSET day – advance notice

A reminder for all parents/carers that TCA will be closed to students on Friday, 20th March.

Matilda Jr: The Musical

We are pleased to share that preparations for our production of *Matilda Jr.* are well underway. Students have been working hard in rehearsals and making great progress with their line learning, songs, and choreography. Thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraiser, which has helped towards the cost of costumes and props.

Tickets will go on sale after half-term, and the performance will take place on the evening of Thursday 23rd April. We are very excited to share the show with you.

Fundraising events

This week, we have been celebrating Valentine's Day by having events led by student leaders across social times. On Wednesday, a Fundraising Fair was held which raised £200, alongside an opportunity for students to send a Valentine's rose to another student, which will be delivered on Friday. Overall, we raised £280 which has gone to our chosen charity, the Forget-Me-Not Trust in Huddersfield. A huge thank you to everyone involved for your kindness and generosity. A massive well done to Mr Geary and Miss Walsh for coordinating all the events this week.

February half term holiday

As you will be aware, the half term holiday starts this Friday at 3pm. Students are expected to return on Monday, 23rd February to start lessons at 8.30am.

Uniform

I know that halfway through the year might be the time to restock on uniform items. The following table is a reminder of our uniform expectations.

Uniform item	Notes
Academy tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available on Arbor, at TCA or from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury for £5
Academy blazer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury• Must be worn on corridors at all times
Black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full length trousers must be worn• Not leggings, jogging bottoms, tracksuit bottoms, jeans, cycling short or jersey material• Not skin-tight fit• Trousers must be tailored and not shiny or stretchy

Black skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be knee length • Not stretchy/jersey material • Must be worn with black tights
Black socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be worn if wearing trousers
Black shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not trainers or pumps • Converse, Vans or anything made by a sportswear brand are not allowed
Salwar kameez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the neck is visible, a shirt and tie must be worn • Must be black or dark blue with no patterns
School bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential item – not negotiable • Must be big enough to carry PE kit, books and equipment
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One ring • One small bracelet • One necklace (worn under the shirt)
Make up and piercings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One small stud or sleeper in each ear • One small nose stud (not in the septum) • No tongue piercings • Discreet make up • No false nails or false eyelashes

Have a lovely week off after a busy first half term of 2026. The first half of the year feels like it has flown by – hopefully we start to see some more positive weather as winter turns into spring...and we move towards year 11 sitting their final exams.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Burton
Headteacher