

Friday, 16th October

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's hard to believe that we have completed seven weeks of a half term – time really does fly! It's fair to say that we're well into the school year now, and it has been a very positive start.

Attendance

As we move into Autumn and coughs and colds start to kick in, remember that we can look after mild illnesses in school. Please make sure that your child is attending every day – one of the most important parts of a parent's job is to ensure good attendance. There are wonderful prizes to be won for the next two weeks – for all students in school, there'll be one hamper per year group per day – and a grand prize at the end of each week.

Uniform

Thank you for your support in ensuring that students are only wearing natural nails and natural eyelashes. Our next uniform 'push' is around jewellery. Students are allowed the following:

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
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One ring • One small bracelet • One necklace (worn under the shirt)

Please support us by ensuring that your child is following our rules around piercings and jewellery.



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Bushcraft Residential

Around 100 students from year 7 and 8 set off on their residential overnight adventure a few weeks ago and had an amazing time. Despite challenges of living in nature, students (and staff) came back happy, exhilarated (and exhausted). Congratulations to everyone who took part!

Homework

Homework is set regularly via Arbor. This means parents and carers can easily see what homework has been set and when it needs to be completed. Homework will help students remember what they have learned and practise important skills. We want to recognise students who work hard. Good effort with homework will be rewarded with positives on Arbor and postcards home.

You can help your child by providing a quiet place to work, talking to them about their homework and praising the effort they put in. Students have also been taught four simple ways to revise at home:

- Look, Cover, Write, Check
- Flashcards
- Mind Maps
- Brain Dump

It would be very helpful if you could use these strategies to help support your child's learning at home.

RSHE information

At TCA, we are passionate about the way we deliver a thorough and comprehensive Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic (PSHCE) education curriculum. PSHCE education is a hugely important subject which ensures that students have the knowledge, understanding and practical skills to live safe, happy and healthy lives in the modern world. As part of this we deliver Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). Full details of this are detailed in the letter sent to parents in September and on the Academy website here:

[Thornhill Community Academy, A SHARE Academy - Personal Development](#)

Y11 Parent Information Evening

We were pleased to welcome parents to our Year 11 Revision and Post 16 Information evening, taking place on Wednesday 14th October. The evening featured a series of short talks, providing key information about the Post 16 application process and the options available to students, practical guidance on how you can support your child to revise at home and guidance on how to alleviate exam stress. As we all know, year 11 is a crucial time for students and families. If you couldn't make it and still want the information sending, please email Lucinda.Rudd@sharemat.co.uk.

Period 6 – Year 11 students

We offer bespoke intervention sessions through Period 6 every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3.00-3.45 for Year 11. These sessions are run by teachers according to the following schedule:

	Week A	Week B
Monday	Maths	Option subjects
Wednesday	English	Option subjects
Thursday	Science	Option subjects

The sessions are 'invite only' to ensure the intervention is targeted at the students who really need it. Attendance at these sessions is mandatory to ensure they have the maximum impact. Students receive a bespoke timetable on Friday during form time, and the sessions are added onto their Arbor timetable. Please encourage your child to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Ward by email at Mark.Ward@sharemat.co.uk.

Debate Club

Our brand new Debate Club is holding its inaugural Debate Competition after school on Thursday 22nd October. It will take place in the school hall and will start at 15:30 for approx 1 hour (students can use the hall from 15:00). This is an exciting opportunity for students to get involved and make their voices heard, whilst developing their communication skills, critical thinking and confidence. Students are also invited to vote on topical issues such as the upcoming bans on social media for Under 16s and fried foods in schools.

Parent/Carer Contact details

Please ensure that you have provided the most up to date details so that staff can contact you if needed. It is crucial that we can keep you informed on important matters as quickly as possible. If you or a named contact change telephone number or email, please remember to inform us. Please email any changes to James.MacFaul@sharemat.co.uk.

Have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Burton
Headteacher