Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

I would firstly like to take the opportunity to say a very big thank you to you all for your good wishes and messages of support received over the last week as we have opened our new school. There has been so much genuine kindness in the form of good luck personal messages, letters and phone calls from many of you, so thank you, on behalf of all of my staff and the Governing Body at the school.

It has been wonderful to see the pupils and students returning to school and looking so smart in our new school uniform. They also seem to be very impressed with our new school, are getting used to new classrooms and getting their bearings. We are aware that there are a small minority of pupils who have individual items of uniform still to arrive and we have done all we can to be flexible by loaning items of uniform, on a short term basis to pupils and students until their own uniform arrives. In time, we hope to establish a nearly new uniform shop; more information to follow.  It has also been an absolute pleasure to meet your children at the gate on both Thursday and Friday mornings last week and again this morning and to have personally witnessed optimism, positivity and immaculate manners from large numbers of pupils and students on their way into school. What an absolute credit they are to you!

Our new school website is www.henrytudorschool.wales or www.ysgolharritudur.cymru. We are currently only using this website to post all important messages and information. This is a holding website and will be replaced shortly by our new school website.  Please note that there is not a current social media feed, we will advise when this is operational. The Pembroke School social media sites are not currently operational or monitored and will not be used for general communication. Please visit the holding website, there is a lot of information that you will find useful or helpful. Our telephone number is 01646 682461.

On Thursday 20th September, we will be holding our first Open Evening. Doors will open at 4pm and the event will finish at 5.40pm.I hope that many of you will come to have a guided tour and look around our new school. There will be an opportunity to visit classrooms, see communal areas and talk to pupils, students and staff. We will also be offering a sample taster menu from PCC Catering, who provide our catering services. There will also be a chance to see the facilities available to pupils and students and complimentary light refreshments will also be available. Many pupils and students will be invited to attend to represent departmental areas, a permission letter will follow in due course.

Once our new school routines are established, we will be inviting parents to come into school to view and participate in PREP sessions and to take part in parent/pupil learning and feedback sessions. These take place from 3.00 to 3.15 on Monday – Thursday.

Our Friday clubs were well attended last week. Just to remind you, pupils and students finish formal learning at 1.30 on Fridays. They may leave at 1.30 or stay for Break 2 (lunch) and leave once they have eaten. Friday enrichment clubs start at 2pm. I apologise that boys’ cookery did not run on Friday 7th September. However, the Drama Society, Music, Multi Sports and Homework club were all well attended. We are also offering an open swimming session (lifeguard supervised) and Zumba session. We look forward to seeing pupils and students again next Friday. Pupils and students are more than welcome to attend on subsequent weeks if they would like to. We meet to register in the Main Hall at 2pm every Friday afternoon.

We have welcomed a number of new pupils into some of our year groups this year, some from other Pembrokeshire schools and others whose families have relocated to Pembrokeshire. If you do know of anyone who is hoping to send their son/daughter to our school, please remind/guide them that all admissions/transfers (even from primary school to secondary school) must be applied for via Pembrokeshire County Council who are the admissions authority, in the first instance.

Finally, parents of pupils in Years 8-13 will recall we were fund raising for a baby grand piano for our school hall. Just to let you all know, it has been delivered and has proudly taken its place in our Main Hall! Thank you to all of you who contributed, we are very grateful.

I am enclosing some information below that I hope you will find useful:

The buses timetable has been publicised by Pembrokeshire County Council and is also on our holding website.

Advance Notice of Parents’ Evenings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year 11 | 18th October 2018 |
| Year 12/Year 13 | 29th November 2018 |
| Year 9 | 13th December 2018 |
| Year 8 | 14th March 2019 |
| Year 10 | 28th March 2019 |
| Year 7 | 16th May 2019 |

INSET DAY CLOSURES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Friday 26th October 2018 | Friday 12th April 2019 |
| Monday 26th November 2018 | Monday 22nd July 2019 |

Heads of Year

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year 7 | Mrs S. Martin | Year 10 | Mrs H. McMillan |
| Year 8 | Mrs L. Morgan | Year 11 | Mr C. Preddy |
| Year 9 | Mr G. Thomas | Year 12 & 13 | Mr J. Jones |

School Day Times

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The School Day for September 2018  Weeks A and B | Monday – Thursday | Friday |
| Period 1 | 8.40 - 9.40am | 8.40 - 9.40am |
| Period 2 | 9.40 - 10.40am | 9.40 - 10.40am |
| Mentor meetings, assemblies/  collective daily act of worship | 10.40 - 11.00am | 10.40 - 11.00am |
| Break 1 | 11.00 - 11.30am | 11.00 - 11.30am |
| Period 3 | 11.30 - 12.30pm | 11.30 - 12.30pm |
| Period 4 | 12.30 - 1.30pm | 12.30 - 1.30pm |
| Break 2 | 1.30 - 2.00pm | 1.30pm End of Formal learning  Lunch will be available from 1.30-2.00pm  Friday Enrichment *2.00-3.15pm*  *\*Some pupils may be asked to remain in school until 3.15pm* to attend a restorative session or detention. |
| Period 5 | 2.00 - 3.00pm |
| PREP | 3.00 - 3.15pm |
| End of formal learning | 3.15pm |

All best wishes for now

Yours sincerely



Mrs Fiona Kite BA ( Hons) PGCE , CLT, FoCT, NPQH

Headteacher