

6 October 2014

Headteacher: Christopher Anders BA (Hons) MA

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to welcome you to the new school year. This letter is a little later than usual as we have waited until we were settled into the new building before writing.

### New School

The move, in the main, has gone smoothly. We are grateful to Susan Parish (School Business Manager) and each member of the Site and Community Team for their hard work during the summer holiday, which got us ready for the new academic year to start in our new buildings.

The students are very positive about their new surroundings. The next phase (Reception and the Science and Technology blocks) are due for completion in May 2015. Thank you for supporting us with our temporary arrangements for entering/exiting and car parking, by not coming onto the school site at the start and end of the school day. We appreciate this can be inconvenient at times, but your child's safety is our main priority.

### Time for Respect and Reflection

You may have heard by now that one of the changes introduced this school year is that when a member of the school's Leadership Team enters the classroom students stand up. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, it is a sign of respect which is something we all demonstrate at various times in our lives, e.g. if someone is being introduced to a person they are meeting for the first time, s/he would stand up to shake hands. Secondly, it provides a moment of reflection for the students. Three questions that may be asked of the class by the member of the Leadership Team are:

- What are you learning today?
- How will you know you have made progress?
- What do you know now that you didn't know at the start of the lesson?

By using this reflection time students are able to identify for themselves how much they have learned and the progress made. This will be beneficial to their education.

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### Skoolkit (uniform purchases)

You will also be aware that school uniform is now purchased at Skoolkit. Skoolkit has relocated to larger premises on the first floor balcony of The Meridian Centre, Elm Lane, Havant, PO9 1UN. Their telephone number and email address remain as 023 9245 5795 and [havant@skoolkit.co.uk](mailto:havant@skoolkit.co.uk). During their first week in their new location (3-10 October) they are offering 10% discount off everything in store.

### Term Time Holidays

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the government do not want students taking holidays during school time. If you have any concerns with this, please contact Ms Bannard on extension 251.

If you remove your son(s)/daughter(s) from school for a holiday you could face a £60 per parent per child fine.

### Special Needs Information Day

The Hampshire Parent Partnership Service and Parent Voice Special Needs Information Day for families takes place on Saturday, 11 October 2014 at Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College in Basingstoke between 10.00 and 3.00 p.m. It is an opportunity for families of SEN students to gather information about support and services available across the county. It is free to attend and transport to the venue is being arranged by Park Community School. If you would like to attend please email Ella Capaldi, SENCO, on [e.capaldi@pcs.hants.sch.uk](mailto:e.capaldi@pcs.hants.sch.uk) by Thursday, 9 October.

Finally, some **Key Dates** for your diary:

- **Monday, 13 October** – school is closed to students for staff training
- **Tuesday, 14 October** – school is open to all students (we will **not** be closing if the proposed strike identified for that date goes ahead)
- **Thursday, 23 October** – school is closed to students for staff review day
- **Friday, 24 October** – school is closed to students
- **Monday, 27 to Friday, 31 October** – half term
- **Monday, 3 November** – school opens as usual to all students
- **Thursday, 13 November** – Year 11/12 Celebration evening
- **Thursday, 27 and Friday, 28 November** – performances of the school production of 'Grease'
- **Friday, 19 December** – students break up of Christmas (Spring Term starts on Monday, 5 January 2015)

Yours faithfully



Sue Walker  
Deputy Headteacher