

13 January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year! I hope you had a lovely Christmas and a well-deserved break over the holiday period. It is a pleasure to welcome both you and your children back to Hungerhill School for the spring term. We are thrilled to see the children return with excellent behaviour and positive attitudes; as always they have returned with big smiles on their faces, eager to learn and looking very smart in their school uniforms. Walking round the school last week, I felt very proud of our children.

I thought it would be useful to write to you with our upcoming events for this half term. Your engagement in school life is hugely important to us and we have a number of parents' evenings this half term on the following dates:

- **16th January:** Year 8 Options Evening, 4-6pm, please ensure you have the options booklet and pathways letter to hand on this evening.
- **30th January:** Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4-7pm.
- **3rd February:** Parents' Information Evening for students going on the very exciting Iceland trip, 5-6pm.
- **10th-28th February:** Year 11 high stakes two mock examinations.
- **11th, 12th, and 13th February:** School production of *Grease* in the main hall starting at 7pm, which promises to be an electrifying experience!

We look forward to seeing you at these events and appreciate hugely your ongoing support. We also have some exciting opportunities coming up this half term for our students. We have just waved goodbye to a lucky group of our students who are visiting London for two days this week. As well as watching a performance of Mrs Doubtfire, they will visit the Houses of Parliament Education Centre and enjoy a guided tour round Westminster Hall and Westminster Palace. They will also get the amazing opportunity to observe a debate in the gallery of the House of Commons and participate in a mock debate in the Education Centre.

For some of our other wonderful students, this week we have Cambridge University doing some work with our Year 7s, next week Ardagh Glass have invited some of our Design and Technology students to their premises for a tour and presentation and later in the half term we have some of our Year 9 students visiting Sheffield Hallam University, a composer visit for our Year 8 students, our Maths Challenge event, a number of sporting festivals with our primary feeder schools, an



NHS apprenticeship discovery session for some of our Year 10s and a graduation ceremony for our wonderful Year 9 Brilliant Club attendees. What a lot of exciting opportunities we have on offer! Please don't forget to check out our enrichment for this half term as well, which you can find on our school website.

As usual, you can keep up to date with the events of this half term through our school mini-newsletter, Hungerhill Highlights which is published bi-weekly.

### Attendance

We welcome two new staff to our attendance team this term: Miss Winstanley and Mrs Wright and we also welcome Miss Robinson to Hungerhill, who is our Trust Attendance Lead. Our new staff will begin working with our families at pace and, as such, please can I take this opportunity to remind you of our attendance expectations. As you know, we consider attendance at school to be an extremely vital component of academic progress and personal development. We have extremely high expectations of attendance and punctuality; our attendance target is 97% and we require students to arrive on time to school and their lessons so that there is no learning time lost due to disruption from late arrivals. Please also note that we do not authorise holidays taken in term time and that we have a duty to inform our parents and carers about the financial penalties which can be incurred from unauthorised holidays taken in term time. You will be aware that the Department for Education has a very clear stance on improving attendance which we, as a school, wholly support. Please be mindful of this when speaking with our attendance team.


Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that this half term ends on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February and we welcome students back for the second half of our spring term on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

If there's anything you need or want to discuss, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thank you so much for your continued support; it means the world!

Warmest regards,



Mrs K. Crawford  
Headteacher



Ms M. Harwood  
Senior Deputy Headteacher

