

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors and friends,

 **WELCOME BACK A HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR TO ALL**

A term that starts with Christmas decorations, washed away in the Winter's rain, and ends with Spring flowers and the hope of Summer round the corner. Good luck to all those taking A Level exams in the next weeks and lots of encouragement to Y9s and Y11s in their last full term before exams. Make the most of your opportunities.

 **PTA BIG BAND NIGHT ... SAT 27TH JANUARY ... 7.30 P.M ... SCHOOL HALL**

Enjoy listening to the sounds of the Big Band or gliding across the floor to the Langsett Dance Orchestra. There's excellent food (included in the ticket price), a licensed bar, and a great atmosphere to dance the night away .. or, if you're not Mark Ramprakash or Emma Bunton , merely to relax and enjoy the food and the music. It's one of the best events of the year. Come with some friends. Tickets, including a meal and a licensed bar, are £9.50. There's a reply slip at the end of this letter.

 **Y11 COURSEWORK CATCHUP SESSIONS .. MON & TUES.. RM 202 .. 3.30 - 4.30 PM**

A real opportunity, each week, to get back on top of your GCSE coursework – with someone there to make sure you don't waste your time. Contact Ms Harriott or just turn up (prepared to work!)

 **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Please could parents ensure that you send a note with your child on their return to school otherwise we have to send you a letter asking for authorisation of absence.

And a reminder about holiday procedures in case you were thinking of booking in term time:

We feel that holidays taken in term time can have a negative impact on the learning of those students involved and we strongly advise against it. However, up to two weeks are allowable where they fit in with parents' annual leave. Please ask your child to collect a Holiday Request Form from Reception and return it at least two weeks before the start of the requested absence. Please be aware that we will NOT consider authorising a request for a term time holiday:

- During the first two weeks of the school year;
- During any external testing or examination period or during the two weeks leading up to those tests and examinations;
- If the student has an attendance record of less than 90%;
- During the final two terms of Y11



NEXT YEAR'S HOLIDAY DATES

These are the dates we have been given by the LEA. Five days will need to be added to these to cover for Staff Training. We will let you know when these are, as soon as they have been planned.

Autumn Term 2007: Mon 3rd Sept – Fri 21st December inclusive (half term: Oct 29th – Nov 2nd)

Spring Term 2008: Thurs 3rd January – Thurs 20th March inclusive (half term: Feb 11th – 15th)

Summer Term 2008: Mon 7th April – Fri 18th July inclusive (half term: May 26th – 30th)



OTHER COMING EVENTS

8 th – 12 th January	Y9 Exam Week
9 th – 31 st January	A2/AS Exam Modules
10 th – 11 th January	Music GCSE Practicals
Fri 12 th January	Y10 Art Visit to London
Tues 16 th January	Full Governors' Meeting 7.00
Weds 24 th January	Y10 Parents' Evening
Sat 27 th January	PTA Big Band Night 7.30 School Hall
Mon 29 th January	Y11 Reports to Parents
Tues 30 th January	GCSE Subject Choice Evening for Y9 Parents .. 7.30 .. School Hall
Tues 6 th February	Y13 Parents' Evening .. 7.30 .. School Hall
Fri 9 th February	EARLY CLOSURE (2.30 p.m.) for Y11 Progress File Presentation
12 th – 16 th February	Half Term Holiday
19 th – 23 rd February	Y11 Maths Coursework



CHRISTIAN PRAYER GROUP

The next prayer meeting date is Wed 17 Jan at 8.00 p.m. at 6 Hagg Lane . All staff and parents welcome. If anyone has anything for which they would like prayer please contact Wendy on 2630328.



SPORTS REPORT

Lacrosse: Poynton 4 Sheffield 19

The first match of 2007 for the U14's was an important Cup match against Poynton. A dull and dreary day and a very soggy pitch did not deter the boys from getting stuck in as soon as the whistle blew with a goal in the first minute of play. Sheffield dominated play and were particularly strong in defence.. Sheffield were ahead by 12 goals at half time and edged ahead to a 14 goal lead by full time despite a spirited effort by Poynton to get back into the game. A comfortable win gave Sheffield a place in the second round.