



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

22 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we have come to the end of a busy half term, it seems like an excellent time to stop and reflect on how we have all settled back in to 'normal' school as much as possible. Despite the speed with which this half term has flown by, year 9 have made a fantastic start to their final year in Key Stage 3, and are already showing curiosity about the next steps, asking questions about the upcoming Key Stage 4 options process. More information will be shared with parents, carers and students about the options process, which we will be launching in January 2022.

Year 9 have amassed an impressive 2,398 positive virtues across the range of different categories we hold including love of learning, leadership and curiosity. They have taken part in auditions for the school production, taken advantage of the extra-curricular offers, and some have already represented the school in the first sports fixtures since 2019. They seem to have risen well to the challenges, and have been assets to the school.

I would like to also take this opportunity to draw your attention to the changes in the school behaviour policy, where staff are now using a more restorative approach to managing behaviour, and focusing on building positive relationships to foster excellent behaviour for learning.

Another important change to note is the use of SMART watches, which are becoming more prevalent in school. The policy states we will act if we see SMART watches used for any of the negative behaviours that would cause concern were they undertaken with a mobile phone. This is because of the potential safeguarding risk that SMART watches may pose to the safety and privacy of children and adults. We ask that you encourage your child to use all technology safely and appropriately.

Our behaviour policy in full can be found on the school website <https://website.network.st-edwards.poole.sch.uk/>

With rising levels of COVID-19 again, please note that we may need to reintroduce measures to reduce the spread of the virus immediately on return from the half-term break. Can I ask that you ensure that your child brings their mask/exemption lanyard to school from Monday 1st November as a precaution.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a safe and restful half term break. A time to spend with friends and loved ones. I would also like to thank you for the on-going support you have shown the school over the last 18 months and encourage taking time to reflect on the successful start to the year before we return on Monday 1st November ready for the 2nd half of the Autumn term. For students returning, this will be a Week B on their timetables.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Wood
KS3 Director of Learning (Year 9)