

26 May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your child have had a successful few weeks, leading up to half term.

Wootton staff have been gathering information regarding your child, in particular Mrs Gardner-Oyemade our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Mrs Black, our SEND Coordinator. Other staff are meeting with leaders from all the schools after half term, to make sure we have a full picture about our new Year 9. On transition days we will also give every child an opportunity to tell us more about themselves, their interests and their skills and abilities.

We work very closely with Holywell and Marston Vale schools, with subject teachers meeting regularly. We have meetings in the week beginning 13 June to make sure that our staff have a really clear understanding of aspects of the KS3 curriculum that may need to be reinforced due to the upheaval of the last two years. They will also discuss pupils who are really gifted or enthusiastic about their subject. In addition, some subject transition activities in subject areas will take place in schools. For those pupils who currently attend different schools, these activities are on our website www.woottonupper.co.uk/new-intake-2022. I would encourage every pupil to complete the activity linked to our year book 'We are all made of molecules'. They can bring this piece of work with them in July.

After half term we will communicate with all families regarding our Year 9 curriculum. We will also arrange individual meetings with all pupils from schools other than our two main feeder schools, as well as a selection of other pupils. If you feel that we particularly need to arrange a meeting with you and your child, please do let us know via y9transition@wootton.beds.sch.uk.

We have worked with the middle schools to secure two days of transition, and we are really excited to have the opportunity to meet our new Year 9s as a year group.

Transition Days

These are **Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 July**. On these days, pupils will come together in a form group, take part in some workshops and lessons and be able to ask lots of questions in preparation for September. We always ask that pupils try to wear our school uniform on these days, this means a blazer and tie.

To support with the organisation of uniform we are delivering a range of blazer sizes for a 'try before you buy'.

- Holywell School - Monday 6th June to Friday 10th June
- Marston Vale Middle School – Monday 13th June to Friday 17th June

It is always worth a reminder that blazers (not jumpers) make up our school uniform, and traditional school shoes should be worn (not trainers). If you need any financial assistance regarding this, please email Mr McTernan gmcternan@wootton.beds.sch.uk.

Equipment for Transition Days

- All pupils should also bring with them the normal pens, pencils, ruler and so on.
- As we are cashless your child must bring a packed lunch on both days, although we will provide lunch for those who are in receipt of free school meals.
- It would be great to see every pupil bringing a water bottle, to keep them hydrated.

We know this is can be an exciting, nervous time and all children approach it differently. We will be running assemblies in the middle schools before the transition days to support your children. Please do remember that the transition email above if you would like to communicate with us about these next steps.

Wishing you all a lovely half term.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CMCMORN'.

Mrs McMorn
Head of School