

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope that you and your children have settled back into the school routine! In this first Newsletter of the school year we would like to give parents some general school information:

- **Computer Science**

We are delighted to inform you our **new Computer Science teacher Mr Kiers** has now joined our team at BSL. Mr Kiers will be teaching Computer Science to students from **Year 4 to Year 11**, provide IT support within the school and will also be our A-level leader.

We would like to extend our thanks to Professor Cay Horstmann, who covered the Computer Science lessons for us during the month of September.

We are also very happy to announce that **the ICT classroom is now equipped with new laptops** for the use of all students during their Computer Science lessons.

- **Beginning of the School Day**

As per last year, the school will be open from **7:45am** for the early birds. Registration is at **8:50am** this year. Please make sure your child is **in school before registration at 8:50am**. It is very important that your child arrives on time to school as late arrivals distract the class and this is unfair on the teachers and other pupils. Also teaching your child the virtue of punctuality is an important lesson that will help them to achieve well both academically and personally.

Children who arrive late should be taken to Administration. If a child arrives in their classroom after 9:00am they are deemed to be late and this will be recorded on the classroom register. Please send a note via Administration if your child is late for a medical or any other justifiable reason.

- **Uniform**

Please find a copy of our **Student Uniform, Appearance and Jewellery Code** attached.

Clear and high expectations support the growth of self-motivated, self-disciplined, lifelong learners. We believe this does not merely come from academic achievements but also through other aspects of a students' development including maintaining a sense of pride and respect in themselves. The **Student Uniform, Appearance and Jewellery Code** is an important part of this and should be respected.

Students have been informed in class that anyone who does not adhere to the code will be given a verbal warning. After 3 warnings given by any member of the staff a letter will be sent to their parents. If rules continue to be broken after this, parents may be contacted and asked collect their child or bring in the correct uniform item. The school reserves the right to refuse admission to a student if non-compliance to school rules persists.

Thank you in anticipation for your cooperation in this matter and for ensuring that your child is dressed in the correct uniform, which they should be encouraged to wear with pride. If there is any specific reason why your child is not able to come to school in the correct school uniform, please inform administration.

- **Allergies**

Please be reminded that **nuts (including any products which may contain nuts), are not allowed due to allergies.** In addition, if there are children with specific allergies in your child's class or key stage you may be asked not to bring in specific items, for example **eggs and egg products are not permitted in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.**

- **Medical issues**

It is vital that school is kept informed about any medical issues relating to your child. If your child has asthma, please ensure that they have their inhaler with them at all times. If your child has an allergy which may affect them at school, please inform administration.

Pupils who are unwell should not be sent to school. Please support us in trying to avoid the spread of illnesses in school by keeping children who have had vomiting and diarrhoea or a temperature off school for at least 24 hours after symptoms have stopped.

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and spread easily from head to head. Please check your child's head regularly and carry out treatment if necessary.

We also encourage you to inform your child's teacher of any issues which may affect their wellbeing at school, this may include changes in family circumstances for example.

- **Contact details**

For your child's welfare, it is essential that the administration office has an up-to-date telephone number on which you can be contacted in the unlikely event of any illness, accident or emergency involving your child at the school. Furthermore, the majority of school correspondence is sent to parents via email. Therefore, please remember to **inform administration of any changes to your contact details.**

- **Appointments with teachers**

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's progress in school, please contact the office to request an appointment. An appointment will be arranged to see you at the earliest opportunity, please find the **Teacher Appointments Timetable** attached.

Please be reminded that it is the parents' responsibility to bring a translator with them to meetings if needed.

- **Text books and reading books**

All text books and the majority of reading books are provided by the school, however these books are school property and it is important that they are kept in good condition and are not to be written in in pen by the pupils. Any book that is lost, damaged will need to be paid for by parents.

- **After School Clubs**

We would like to remind parent that the following clubs are on offer this term: **Chess club** for pupils in **Years 5, 6 & 7** takes place on **Wednesdays from 3:15 to 4:15pm.**

Dance club for children in **Year 1 to Year 4** takes place on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15 to 4:15pm.**

Spanish language and Social Sciences support for students in Years 9 to 11 and **Spanish as a foreign language Club** are both offered is offered on **Mondays from 3:15 to 4:15pm.**

Please let administration know if you would like your child to join any of the clubs.

- **Pupil's Achievements**

We would like to encourage our pupils and parents to inform us of any activities, events and/or achievements that we can recognise our pupils for. We would love to celebrate all your successes with you! Please let us know what you have been up to and we can display photos and certificates etc. in school!

- **Speaking English**

And finally, please encourage and support your children to speak, read, and watch films in English as much as possible. This will really help them to achieve success in their exams.

Yours faithfully,



Dr. Ingrid Socorro
Headteacher