



Traditional **Values**

Contemporary **Aspirations**

Creative **Curiosity**

PSP/bih
17 February 2017

Dear Parent or Carer

As we look forward to the half term break, we can look back on a very positive and successful start to the New Year. We are very proud of our pupils because the majority of them always work very hard, show respect and contribute positively to the school and the wider community. In order that next half term is as positive and successful as this one, it is helpful for us to clarify a couple of our expectations and also reflect on our first half-term of the New Year.

Teaching and Learning

We are currently in the process of developing our curriculum offer in Key Stage 3 in line with new 'Assessment Without Levels'. As our partnership with our primary schools continue to develop, it is vital our that pupils have the appropriate levels of challenge in their learning as we prepare them for terminal examinations in Key Stage 4. We have built capacity to support our teachers with high quality training and development with four new School Improvement Leader posts. By also working across the Education Alliance Multi Academy Trust, we are able to draw on outstanding practice in Teaching and Learning. This partnership is continuing to grow from strength to strength.

Bondholder Breakfast Meeting

On Friday, 14 October we hosted the prestigious Hull Bondholder Breakfast networking event. During this event, over 140 delegates from the business community met to discuss the difficulties surrounding recruitment and skills, with a core focus on how we can work together to overcome these challenges, harnessing local talent to fulfil the needs of investors and employers, to secure the region's success. Taking centre stage at Malet Lambert were speakers Adrian Mills (General Manager BBC North), Derek Redmond (British Athlete, World Champion and Olympic Medallist), Vaughan Curnow (Project Coordinator, Project Blyth, Greenpower Education Trust) and Jane Spencer (Regional Head of HR - Humber, ABP Humber). Our strong links with our local business community continued last month as we also hosted the Humber LEP Skills network.

Achievement Evening

On Thursday, 24 November we held our annual Achievement Evening. Pupils received subject awards, tutor awards and community awards and heard a great speech from former pupil Chris Hees, a BAFTA winning film producers and City of Culture Board member. A newsletter from the evening can be found on our website.

Attendance and Pupil Progress

At Malet Lambert, we encourage excellent attendance and it is understood that persistent absences are unacceptable and term time holidays should be avoided, if possible. The link between attendance and achievement is well known, but it is particularly significant at GCSE level, where the school year is made much shorter by the demands of the examination system.

This does not mean that you force your child to attend school in the case of genuine illness. As parents, you are best positioned to make the judgment about your children and it is not sensible for them to be in school if they are unwell. If your child is absent, for any reason, please ring the school on 374211 extension 1012, or text the absence hotline number 07860 027350 on the first day of absence.

If possible, would you please avoid registration periods for non-emergency medical appointments. Further information regarding attendance can be found on the school website

Mobile Phone Confiscation Policy

This relatively recent change has had a significant, positive impact on our school. Over 80% of children have not had a single confiscation since its introduction in June 2016. For clarity, our policy is legally compliant in every respect; phones are only allowed before school, at break-time, at lunchtime and after school.

Facial Piercings (Monday 13 March)

As it states on our website through our prospectus, facial piercings are not permitted. However, we fully understand that for some young people this has been a family choice and we entirely respect that. Therefore, where a child has had a facial piercing we simply ask that either a retainer is put in or, where this is not possible, we ask that the entire piercing be covered over with a plaster. We intend to give pupils supportive advice and reminders about this in the first few weeks of next half term and only move to sanctions from Monday, 13 March which will centre on the removal of their social time.

As always, we encourage you to get in touch if you need further clarity on any of the above or simply want to talk something through with us.

Marking and Feedback

Following an extensive piece of work with our Subject Leaders, we have updated our Marking and Feedback Policy. The marking of pupils' work incorporates the principles of Assessment for Learning, and informs the pupils of next steps needed to make sustained progress, and also informs teachers of the next steps required in the teaching process. In this way, written feedback informs teacher planning and pupil progress in equal measure, giving clear, challenging and encouraging targets for improvement, as well as an indication of where objectives have been met. A reminder of our feedback expectations:

WWW (what went well)) This should be a specific positive and personal comment which identifies an area of work that students have succeeded in

EBI (even better if...)/ **Q** This should be a specific comment on an area of work that students need to improve with clear instructions on how it can be improved or a question directed at the student

MAP (MY ACTION POINTS) Time should be given for students to reflect upon staff marking and address the areas stated in the **EBI/Q** where appropriate. Written feedback allows both parties to reflect on the learning that has taken place and informs precise differentiation for future learning; it should comment, question and instruct as a matter of course.

Uniform – Notes

Our standard of uniform is at its best for many years. The community and other schools have commented on this from our very first day back in September. Where a pupil is missing a uniform item, we do please ask that a short dated letter be written by parents to explain when the issue will be remedied. The pupil then carries that with them at all times and this greatly helps us with communication and allows us to better support your child.

Regular communication and contact - Please call ahead

We strongly believe in the importance of regular on-going contact which is why we have all of our form tutor's emails on the website for example. We encourage you to let us know of any concerns as soon as they arise so that we can have the best chance of addressing the concern. We would ask that if you wish to have a face to face meeting with us, you always set this up in advance to ensure that the right person is available and that they afford you the right amount of time. You are all very welcome to discuss matters directly with our Head of School through his surgeries which occur regularly with the next one due on 30 March.

Dropping Children Off At School Safely

We do appreciate that some families use their cars to drop pupils at school in a morning. We would politely remind drivers to fully enter our car park and turning circle to drop pupils off. Cars should not stop on the marked areas outside school, on James Reckitt Avenue, as this can have a negative impact on our local community, and compromises road safety.

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Malet Lambert encourages curriculum areas and Pastoral and Progress Leaders to explore and embrace careers related opportunities. Staff are now more aware that the careers department can usually access opportunities, in order to advance careers awareness in our pupils. This Autumn term has seen the following experiences happen:-

1. Year 11 pupils attended a 'Your Future' Careers Experience, showcasing regional careers opportunities in Port and Logistics, iMedia, Health and Renewables
2. Science pupils visited the DEEP for three Marine Biology workshops
3. Year 10 girls attended an interactive experience at HEY Pathology Department during National Pathology Week
4. 10 pupils entered the BADGER'S SETT Enterprise Challenge with one pupil achieving runner up in the secondary school section
5. Year 10 Business pupils attended the Enterprise Challenge Day as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week
6. Business pupils also visited REBOUND Trampoline Centre to learn how a new business is established.
7. In Year 8 most academic pupils visited a sixth form college to experience taster sessions in various departments.
8. Textiles and Health and Social Care pupils attended workshops related to their current topics at a sixth form college.
9. Very high achieving pupils spent a long day at Mansfield College, Oxford University. The day included presentations, workshops and a walking tour of Oxford.

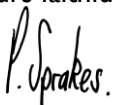
Events already in the calendar include:

- A series of Modern Languages visits to P&O Ferries, Hull to explore languages in action
- A numeracy (STEM) day at Hull University to raise the profile of the importance of numeracy in the workplace
- Project Blyth STEM Project and Engineering Enrichment
- An 'understanding UCAS (University admission)' workshop
- A week long programme during National Careers Week (week beginning 6 March) including a full day project in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

Have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming our pupils back after the holiday and continuing our excellent working partnerships with all parents. **This letter will also be sent out via text and email.**

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Yours faithfully



Patrick Sprakes
Head of School



Stephen Logan
Deputy Headteacher



Steve Fenna
Deputy Headteacher