



Headteacher
Mr James Down

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Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family enjoyed a fantastic summer holiday. Isn't it typical that as soon as students return to school, the great weather returns!

This summer was a successful summer for students who sat public exams at St Cuthbert Mayne School. Outcomes for Year 11 student grades improved, with a number of students making exceptional progress above the national average! At KS5, attainment also improved and nearly all of the students were able to take up their place at university, enter employment or further training. Well done to the class of 2023!

At the start of this new academic year we have been really impressed by the fantastic start that students have made. They have looked smart in their school uniforms and their attitude in lessons has been fantastic. Thank you to all parents for your support in ensuring your children have everything they need and are ready for school each day. They have set the bar high for themselves, so now we want to keep it there!

Building Programme Update

Over the summer holidays a significant amount of school improvement works have taken place. The two projects that students will notice most are the 3 brand new science labs for this term and the demolition of the Launceston Block (or the History Huts as they were affectionately known by some). I know that students will enjoy using these new fantastic labs and the new outdoor space that will be created on the site of the Launceston Block over the coming weeks. Our buildings are of mixed age but we will continually look for ways to improve the learning accommodation for our students. All building works are planned to be completed by the end of November 2023.

Attendance

It is really important that your child is in school every day. There was a really clear correlation between those who achieved great outcomes in last summer's exams and their attendance. **Those with attendance of 96% or above made progress, which was above the national average.** This is because of the great teaching and learning that happens in school. If your child is not here, they are missing out on that experience. We understand that there will be times when your child is too ill to come to school. Please do contact our absence line on 01803 317901 to report your child as

absent if they are too unwell to come to school. If you are having trouble getting your child to school then please contact your child's tutor.

School Uniform

All our students have looked really smart this week. We know that there have been some supply issues within certain sizes of blazers and school PE polo t-shirts. We have raised these issues with our supplier Pro Direct who are working to get stock replenished as soon as possible.

This year we are running a 'Right Start' shop, where students can come and borrow an item of school uniform before the school day starts. This enables all students to be in the right uniform. Students hand in an item of value to them and then get this back at the end of the day when they return the item of school uniform. If you have any old school uniform at home that you would be happy to donate, then please do send it in.

Breakfast Club

The school canteen is open from 8:15am - 8:30am in the morning and serves a range of breakfast foods. Parents do not need to book a place in the breakfast club, and all students are welcome.

Extra Curricular Activities

Next week we will be sharing with parents and students our 'Life to the full' programme. There is a fantastic programme of opportunities on offer this year. Please do encourage your child to get involved to support their personal development.

Home Learning Support

All students at STCM are set home learning to complete each night. This helps students to become independent learners and develops their cultural capital. Each night we run a home learning support session until 3:50pm for any student who needs help with their home learning or has missed a piece of home learning and needs to catch up.

Behaviour for Learning

This term we have raised the bar again in terms of the expectations we have of students in school. You will have seen in our Ofsted report that school leaders have very high expectations for student behaviour, but some students don't meet these expectations and a few disrupt the learning of others. This week we have been really clear with students about our expectations in terms of attendance, punctuality, uniform, behaviour and attitude to learning. We aren't going to

compromise on these expectations because we want the best for your child. It has been fantastic to see the number of merits coming in for students who have risen to the challenge we have set. Students who don't meet our expectations will complete their learning in our Reflection Room and will remain in school until 3:50pm. This is non-negotiable. The Behaviour Team will communicate with parents should this be the case for your child. If your child refuses to cooperate then they will be suspended from school.

School Photographs

Next week the photographer will be in school on Thursday 14th September. They will be photographing students in Years 7, 10 and 12 along with any other new starters in other year groups. All students having their photograph taken will be expected to wear full school uniform as normal. The event will be supervised by a member of school staff. Any Year 12 students who do not have lessons on this day are asked to come into school for 8:55am and report to the Library for their photograph to be taken. Photographs are used for school internal use only, however, parents can buy them from the company if they so wish. Proofs will be sent home with the students in due course and all orders are to be made directly with the company.

Key Dates this term

08.09.23	Welcome Service (Year 12)
14.09.23	School Photographs
14.09.23	UCAS Evening
15.09.23	Welcome Services (Year 7 & 12)
21.09.23	Open Evening (6pm - 8pm)
28.09.23	Open Morning (9:15am - 11:30am)
28.09.23	Yr 10 Information Evening/ Yr 12 Induction Evening
29.09.23	SEN Review Day
05.10.23	Tutor Parents Evening
12.10.23	Open Morning (9:15am - 11:30am)
12.10.23	Friends of STCM Meeting
17.10.23	Deep Learning Morning
23.10.23 - 27.10.23	October Half Term
01.11.23	Feast of All Saints - Holy Day of Obligation
03.11.23	Sixth Form Taster Day
09.11.23	Family Support Event

15.11.23 - 17.11.23	Careers Experience (Yr 11)
23.11.23	Yr 11 Pathways Evening
24.11.23	St Cuthbert Mayne Day
27.11.23	Non-Pupil Day - School Closed
04.12.23 - 08.12.23	School Production
12.12.23	Yr 7 Christmas Lunches
13.12.23	Whole School Christmas Lunches
15.12.23	Christmas Services
18.12.23 - 01.01.24	Christmas Holidays

Term Dates

Please click on the following link for the term dates: <https://www.st-cuthbertmayne.co.uk/term-dates/>

I would like to wish you and your child a fantastic academic year ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Down
Headteacher