



9th September 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Just a short message from me today, to welcome new parents/carers and welcome back existing parents/carers as we start this new school year.

I will, as last year for existing parents, try and share updates and insights about what we are doing in school and why, throughout the year to keep you, as parents informed, so that we can work together in support of the very best school experience for your children.

Firstly, while the weather has not been great, the way in which the Year 7 students have started at Warlingham has been fantastic so far, as has been the case for new starters in Year 12 too. It can be overwhelming starting somewhere new, but what made me really proud on Friday and today, has been seeing how the rest of the school community have supported, directed and reassured those students who have been worried, lost or uncertain.

I delivered brief welcome back assemblies last week to all year groups and will be delivering more this week. I will share in more detail the focus of my assemblies with you later during this week.

For today, I wanted to draw your attention as parents and carers to some upcoming events and how you and your child can support the school. Firstly, we have an active and enthusiastic PTA at Warlingham that need members and supporters to help organise and run fundraising events for the benefit of all students at Warlingham. Their first meeting of this year is at the Horseshoe pub in Warlingham at 6.30pm this Thursday (12th September) and all are welcome, particularly any new parents who would like to learn more about the PTA and what it does for the school.

Secondly, next week we have our Open Evening on Thursday 19th September. This means we will close early on Thursday at 1.30pm and open late on Friday 20th at 9.35am to support setting up and clearing up, for what is a really important event for the school. Your child can support the event by acting as a guide for prospective students and their parents, or department helpers – please talk to them about this as it is a great way to show their pride in the school and if they would like to get involved please respond to requests for your consent as soon as possible to help the smooth running of the evening.

Thirdly, this term we are running a number of Year Group – Meet the Tutor and Head of Year events, as we have made changes to our pastoral structure. Providing this opportunity to meet Tutors and the Heads and Deputy Heads of Year, is really important in establishing those critical home school relationships that enable us to work together in your child's best interests. The first of these is for Year 11 on Wednesday 18th September at 5pm. As a parent of a Son starting in Year 11 this year, I know you will want to be there to help set them off on the right foot on this very important year ahead. The dates for all the other year groups are all on the website and in September, so please make sure they are in your calendars and we look forward to seeing you.

Lastly, in this message, please can I ask all parents to be considerate of our neighbours when planning getting to and from school for your child. Ideally walking or using public transport wherever possible. It is particularly difficult to drop off on Tithe Pit Shaw lane while the pavement works are ongoing and traffic lights are in place.

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Tandridge Learning Trust

Please be considerate of the driveway access of local residents and do not park across these, or on double yellow lines or on the zigzags outside the school.

We are there at the end of the day to support road crossing, so please remind your son or daughter to cross at the point where our duty staff are to ensure it is safe and arrange to meet your child if you are picking them up, away from the immediate vicinity of the exit wherever possible.

Thank you for your support of your child and the school and I look forward to seeing you in person at the upcoming parental meetings for each year group – or at the PTA meeting this Thursday!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Foster', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Mr P Foster

Headteacher