



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref:GSE/SXG

16 October 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

As always, the October half-term holiday has arrived upon us very quickly indeed and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for making me feel particularly welcome since I joined the school in September. I am very proud to hold this position and look forward to working with you over the course of this year.

I would like to praise the students for their behaviour and attitude to learning so far this term. When I have walked around the school, I have been impressed with their commitment to their learning, their uniform and their good manners. When I have been on the gate at either end of the day, they have greeted me with good humour and smiles (more often at the end of the day!) You can be very proud of them and the way that they represent both you and the school. They are certainly attending, participating and behaving.

I have been impressed with the level of involvement in the variety of extra-curricular clubs and the number of trips which have already taken place or are being planned for later in the year. As I write, six students are midway through their trip to Auschwitz as part of the Holocaust Memorial Trust's annual programme and our Year 13 Politics students are about to leave for their trip to Washington. Allied to this are the huge number and range of sports fixtures which have already taken place this year – the commitment of both staff and students was illustrated by the recent Sports Awards Evening. Many of our newer parents will also have enjoyed the two Year 7 music concerts, which are being held this week. The quality of learning and the range of trips and fixtures could not take place without the commitment and hard work of all the staff at William Farr and I would like to thank them for their efforts so far this year.

I would like to outline some of the changes which have taken place or are about to take place in the coming weeks and months. It is our intention to make things easier for parents and also to improve communication between school and home.

Move To Being A Completely Cashless School

We are aiming to be a completely cashless school by 1 January 2025. This will make paying for things quick and easy for parents and we anticipate having everything payable via your Squid account by January. This will include school dinners, trips, non-uniform days, purchases from the school shop, etc. You can log in or create your Squid account here: [Welcome – sQuidcard](#)

We will begin the process by removing the paying-in machine in the reception over the October half term and hopefully things will be running smoothly very quickly. Please bear with us if there are any glitches. If there are any, please contact the school and we will try and resolve any issues as soon as possible. I would also like to reassure you that we will always ensure that your child is fed.

If you are having any difficulty with your Squid account or need registration details, please email Mr Carlyle on: j.carlyle@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk

Improving Communication Between School & Home

As part of our plans to improve communication between home and school, we have made the behaviour records of all students available to see on MCAS. This will update almost in real time and you will be able to see your child's positive and negative behaviour points. We hope that this will give you a greater understanding of how they are performing at school.



This is only the first phase and it was the easiest to put in place. We hope to have assessment results and attitude to learning scores on MCAS in the future. However, this will take some time to implement.

Once again, if you are having any difficulty with your MCAS account, please email Mr Carlyle on: j.carlyle@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk

We will also be sending out surveys for parents in the weeks after half term. I would appreciate if you could take the time to complete them as they will help us shape the future provision at William Farr. I promise they will not be very time-consuming!

Lost Property

We have a huge number of winter coats in Lost Property. If your child has misplaced a winter coat in the last nine months, could you ask them to check with Mrs Haywood at the Lost Property Cabin to see if we have it. Any coats that have not been claimed by Friday 15 November will go to either the pre-loved uniform shop or to local charity shops.

Please could I ask you to also name all pieces of uniform. This means that we will be able to return any lost property relatively quickly and save parents money into the bargain.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a restful half-term holiday and, once again, thank you for your support of the school so far this year.

Yours faithfully

G S Edgar
Headteacher