

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr A. Brown

26th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of an exceptionally hot and, at times, challenging week, I wanted to write to you with a bit of a reflection. I suspect that these conditions may well become part of the new normal and our ability to adapt will be an essential part of our summers.

Firstly, I would like to reassure you that the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff have remained our absolute priority at all times. We have worked really hard to put in place a number of practical adjustments to help manage the conditions and ensure that students could continue to learn in a safe and supported environment.

These measures we have put in place this week have included: introducing additional short breaks between lessons to allow students regular access to water, encouraging hydration throughout the day, and making greater use of shaded and cooler spaces wherever possible. We have also maximised the use of air-conditioned rooms by moving classes and combining access to these rooms. I believe these have really made a difference.

Additionally, this time of year is so busy and enabling crucial activities and events to continue is a major consideration. Today for example we have had: Sixth Form induction, A PE trip, Food exams, catch up exams and planned lessons. All of which require significant preparation and could not easily be rescheduled without additional disruption and disappointment.

We are aware that there is often understandable discussion, speculation and unease about school closures, and that everyone has a view about what should happen. We carefully considered not only the conditions on site, but also the wider context. Remaining open has ensured that students have had a safe, supervised environment, and has allowed families to maintain normal routines, including work commitments, which we know is vitally important. I also worry that a closed school can create unsupervised children resulting in them potentially making choices that may make them unsafe.

I do want to recognise that the conditions have not been easy, we are proud of how our school community has responded. The resilience, adaptability and positive attitude shown by students and the professionalism and commitment of our staff have enabled us to navigate the week successfully. Also, the flexibility and cooperation shown by students in adapting to these changes has been excellent.

Thank you for your continued support, particularly in ensuring that students came prepared with water, sun protection and appropriate clothing. It has made a real difference.

I would be lying if I said I wasn't ready for the end of the school day and the air-conditioning in my car!

I hope you are able to enjoy a restful and cooler weekend ahead.



Mr D Whales
Headteacher