

Dear Parents,

It has been a pleasure to welcome our students back this week to start the new school year. I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

We also welcomed a number of new students in to both the sixth form and other year groups. I would like to extend a particular welcome to those students from Year 7 through to Year 13 and their families. I hope that you will get in touch if there are areas in which we can support your son or daughter during the transition process.

I would like to congratulate the students who took examinations this summer. There have been some impressive results for students at A Level and GCSE level and if you don't receive the Lichfield Mercury you may wish to have a brief look at the summary on the new school website, [www.keslichfield.org.uk](http://www.keslichfield.org.uk) in the News section. Our new Year 12 students have excellent potential and we will be working with them to make the rapid transition required for their AS Level studies.

Our website has been updated over the summer. We are still in the process of adding content and new features. It will also offer opportunities to share more of the events and student successes with you.

### **Uniform**

The year has started very positively with the vast majority of students wearing the correct uniform in an appropriate manner; they look very smart and portray a very positive image of the school.

We do have a number of girls who are either rolling up their skirts or wearing skirts which are unsuitably short for school. As I outlined in my letter at the end of the summer term and in assemblies, we will speak to students who come to school in very short skirts and ask them to change for the day in to one of an appropriate length or a pair of trousers (provided by school). We will then contact you about a suitable replacement.

The guidance for girls' uniform is that they may wear a King Edward VI School Skirt or plain black tailored trousers. Skirts should always be worn at an appropriate length, no more than 5 cm above the knee. Thank you for your support on this matter.

### **Important Dates**

Accompanying this letter is a list of important dates for the school year including holidays, staff training days, events, parents' evenings and a variety of other activities. I hope this will assist you in your own planning; please contact the school if you require further information or clarification. Any changes will be published via the website or via text and letters to parents.

### **Year 10 Parents' Information Evening**

A reminder that the Year 10 Information Evening for parents takes place on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 7:00pm in Bader Hall**. This will give useful information about assessment, examinations and supporting students which we hope you will find useful. It is open to all parents of current Year 10 students.

### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October – Open Evening**

The school's annual Open Evening for Year 6 parents and students will take place on **Wednesday 1st October**. Please note that the **school day for students will finish at 2.35 pm on this day**. School buses will be re-arranged for the earlier time.

### **Dedication Day**

From the attached list of important dates for the school year you will note that the school's Dedication Day will take place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, from 11 a.m. until 12 midday, at Lichfield Cathedral. All students in Years 7, 10 and 12, and musicians, readers and prefects from other years, will be involved. Students walk to and from the Cathedral, supervised by their Form Tutors, Senior Staff and prefects. I should like to take this

opportunity to invite you to the service. You do not need to reserve a place although with a large number of students a seat cannot be guaranteed.

### **Contact us**

Information about our new Guidance Structure was included in Kespress in the summer. If you would like a reminder then please check the website for further details. Our new Pastoral Support Assistants are getting to know the students and are available during the day for communication with parents. Please get in touch when you need to or if you have any queries.

I should like to take this opportunity to ask, that should you change any important contact information e.g. mobile telephone number, address, you contact the school so that we can amend our records and keep you informed about important events.

We have had a new phone system installed over the summer and I do apologise if you have had any difficulties in getting in touch with us at the beginning of term. We are confident that this will be a more effective system in the longer term but there have been a few glitches in the early stages.

The students have made a good start to the new school year, one which we will work hard to maintain. As ever, I should like to thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely

J. Rutherford  
Headteacher