

Principal: Lesley Welsh



4 February 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been a great half term at George Pindar School with the vast majority of our students making us incredibly 'Proud to be Pindar' as they engage in all lessons, extra-curricular activities and opportunities with a positive attitude to learning and a real desire to make progress. We hope that this continues as we approach the halfway point of the academic year and the final countdown for our Year 11 students.

Thoughts in school have turned to the way in which we engage with our parents, carers and wider community lately. For all families there are two formal opportunities per year to meet with staff and it was pleasing to see so many of you at the Form Tutor Parents' Evenings which took place before Christmas. The programme of parents' evenings continues and upcoming events can be found at the bottom of this letter and on the school calendar on the new school website. There are of course many more informal meetings which are arranged between Heads of Year and families on a regular basis. You may also recall the series of Meet The Principal events which have taken place over the last few years. Attendance at these events has dwindled and they have not always offered the opportunity for us to discuss how we can work together to further improve the school and its wider community to benefit our students.

With this in mind, I would like to invite all interested parents and carers to the launch of the 'SGPS' or 'Supporters of George Pindar School' on Wednesday 12 February at 6.30pm. We envisage that this could be a type of 'Parent-Teacher Association' which would allow a more formal opportunity to get parental feedback as well as to conduct some fundraising to support in or out-of-school projects. If you would like to attend please email hello@gps.hlt.academy so that we can arrange an appropriate venue for the meeting. It is anticipated that the SGPS would meet once per half term and that support would be offered to fundraising or special events. This would also represent a formal calendared opportunity to share parental voice. I do hope you will be able to join us and look forward to seeing you next week.

The Hope Learning Trust is also seeking opportunities to engage with parents and carers and, as you are aware, any interested families who are available are invited to the Hope Parent Forum which takes place at Coventry University on Monday from 1pm to 3pm. Please contact k.humbleby@hlt.academy for more information if you are able to attend.

The current half term ends on Friday 14 February at 3pm and students return to school on Wednesday 26 February after two Professional Development days for staff. We look forward to seeing all students then as we continue to strive for 100% attendance and look forward to seeing all parents and carers at one of our events very soon.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Welsh
Principal

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Hope Learning Trust York

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KEY CALENDAR DATES:

Wednesday 12 February – 6.30pm	Launch of 'Supporters of George Pindar School'
Friday 14 February	School closes for Half Term break
Wednesday 26 February	School re-opens after Half Term break
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
Thursday 12 March – 3.15-6.15pm	Year 8 Options and Parents' Evening
Wednesday 18 March – 6.30pm	Supporters of George Pindar School Meeting
Thursday 19 March – 3.15-6.15pm	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Friday 20 March	Deadline for submission of Year 8 Options Forms
Wednesday 1 April – 6.30-7.30pm	Year 11 GCSE Steps to Success Evening
Friday 3 April	School closes for Easter break
Monday 20 April	School re-opens following Easter break
Thursday 23 April – 3.15-6.15pm	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 30 April – 3.15-6.15pm	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 8 May	Bank Holiday
Monday 11 May	Start of GCSE Exams
Friday 15 May – 5.00pm	Year 7 London Trip Departs
Friday 22 May	School closes for Half Term break
Monday 1 June	School re-opens after Half Term break
Wednesday 10 – Friday 19 June	Year 10 PPE Week
Monday 22 – Friday 26 June	Year 10 Work Experience
Tuesday 30 June	Year 11 Prom
Thursday 2 July – 3.15-6.15pm	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Thursday 9 July – 3.15-6.16pm	Year 8 Form Tutor Parents' Evening
Friday 17 July	Sports Day
Friday 17 July	School closes for Summer Break
Thursday 20 August	Year 11 GCSE Results Day
Tuesday 8 September	School re-opens following Summer Break