Dear Parent/Carer,

We are trialling a weekly pastoral update to improve communication with parents and carers, while reducing the number of individual emails and notifications sent throughout the week.

Each week, we will bring together important school reminders, pastoral information, year group updates, safeguarding advice, attendance messages and upcoming events.

We hope you find this a useful way to stay informed about school life.

Whole-School Updates and Reminders

Uniform and PE Kit

A reminder that pupils should only wear their PE kit to school on days when they have a timetabled PE lesson.

Pupils arriving in incorrect uniform will be placed in IMPACT and will no longer be permitted to wear their PE kit to school where this expectation is not followed.

We appreciate your support in ensuring pupils arrive at school correctly dressed and ready to learn.

Sleep and Wellbeing – School Nurse Support

Getting enough sleep is essential for young people's physical health, emotional wellbeing, concentration and development.

Please see the attached information from the School Nurse Team.

The resources include helpful advice, guidance and webinars to support parents and carers in establishing healthy sleep routines for their children.

GTA – Parent Information

Please see the attached information offering advice and guidance around GTA.

Special Event – Meet the Author Chris Martin!

We are delighted to welcome author and playwright Chris Martin to Fulwood Academy on Monday 14 December, during Period 1.

Chris will introduce pupils to his character, Inky Stevens, the schoolboy detective. Pupils will discover the inspiration behind the stories, learn about the writing process and may even have the opportunity to take part in a short performance.

Exclusive Year 7 Book Offer

Year 7 pupils have the opportunity to purchase the personally signed Inky Stevens Trilogy for just £16 (RRP £25), saving £9.

Please see the attached information for further details.

Year Group Updates

Year 7

Contacting the Head of Year

During the school day, my priority is supporting students through individual meetings, pastoral work and responding to incidents. This can sometimes make it difficult to answer telephone calls immediately. I will always do my best to answer or return missed calls where possible.

However, **email is often the most effective way to get in touch**. It allows me to review, prioritise and respond to concerns efficiently. I would therefore encourage parents and carers to use email wherever possible.

Contacting Teaching Staff

For questions relating to specific lessons, subjects, homework or classroom matters, I would encourage parents and carers to contact the relevant class teacher directly in the first instance. Teachers are best placed to answer questions about their lessons and provide subject-specific information. Staff email addresses can be found on the school website.

If you are unsure who to contact or have a wider pastoral concern, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Year 10

SPARX Science Homework

A reminder that SPARX Science homework is due every Wednesday. Pupils who do not complete their homework will be required to attend a SPARX catch-up session.

Please support your child by encouraging them to complete their homework on time.

Staying Hydrated

Please encourage your child to bring a water bottle to school each day. Staying hydrated supports concentration, energy levels and overall wellbeing, helping pupils make the most of their learning.

The Importance of Attendance

Year 10 is a crucial stage in your child's GCSE journey, and good attendance is more important than ever.

Every lesson builds on previous learning, and missing school can mean missing valuable teaching, support and opportunities to develop essential knowledge and skills.

We understand that genuine reasons for absence are sometimes unavoidable. However, we ask that all pupils attend school every day they are well enough to do so.

Every lesson counts, and regular attendance gives your child the best possible chance of achieving their potential.

Year 11

Year 11 Hoodies

Some exciting news to share – we are expecting the Year 11 hoodies to arrive next week!

Attendance and GCSE Preparation

As we move closer to the GCSE examinations, it is essential that Year 11 pupils attend school regularly and make the most of every learning opportunity.

We appreciate that darker mornings, colder weather and seasonal illnesses can make attendance more challenging. However, every day in school provides valuable opportunities to revisit key knowledge, practise examination questions, receive feedback and build confidence.

We want every pupil to open their GCSE results in August feeling proud, knowing they have worked hard and given themselves the best possible chance of success.

Please continue to reinforce the importance of attendance, commitment and resilience at home.

Every day counts. Every lesson matters.

Year 11 Parents' Evening – Thursday 26 November

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 26 November. This is an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and the next steps in their GCSE preparation.

Thank you for your continued support.

Upcoming School Dates

Please make a note of the following dates from our school calendar.

Date	Event
26 November	Year 11 Parents' Evening
26 November	Whole-School Flu Vaccinations
27 November	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Until 4 December	Year 7, 8 and 9 Assessment window
7–11 December	SMART Week
9 December	SMART Day
9 December	Christmas Dinner Day
10 December	Year 11 SMART Day 2
10 December	Christmas Concert – time to be confirmed
14 December	Author Visit – Chris Martin (Period 1)
15 December	Year 7–10 Rewards Trip
18 December	School closes at 12.30pm for the Christmas holidays
4 January 2027	School reopens to pupils

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. By working together, we can ensure our pupils feel supported, challenged and encouraged to achieve their very best.

We Care. We Challenge. We Commit.

Fulwood Academy Pastoral Team