

PURCELL PARENT NEWSLETTER

9th September 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we are approaching the end of our first week I thought it was a good moment to get in touch and welcome you (back) to the school and say how much I am looking forward to working with you and your sons and daughters in the coming year. There has been a wonderfully positive and optimistic atmosphere around the school this week: both students and staff seem happy to be back and enjoying being with each other again. New students are telling me that they already feel at home here and they certainly seem very relaxed as they go about their daily business. If you are hearing anything different at home, then do please let us know – via Tutors or Houseparents – so that we can provide some additional support, if required.

Parent Handbook

Whatever your question or query, you are likely to be able to find the answer in the Parent Handbook which can be found in the area of the school

website dedicated to [current parents](#). The Handbook has a full list of contacts and contact details, outlines all the school routines and sets out

our expectations. If you are unsure who best to speak to about a specific issue then the following might be a helpful guide:

General and/or Academic Matters	Tutor; Ms Mitchell (Years 10/11) or Mr Szafranski (Sixth Form)
Pastoral and/or Boarding Matters	Houseparent; Lady Cayley
Musical Matters	Instrumental Head of Department; Mr Hoskins
Medical Matters	Mrs Austin
MDS and/or Finance	Mrs Pickard; Mr Wroblewski
School-Wide Issues	Mr Burns; Mr Bambrough
Safeguarding Issues	Mr Szafranski (Designated Safeguarding Lead); Mr Burns or Mr Bambrough

The Parent Handbook can be found [here](#).

School Website

The website is our principal vehicle for communication with you and you will find all our policies and procedures within its pages. This will be

the first place we post any emergency messages such as closures.

www.purcell-school.org

Day Students

Families are asked to ensure that students arrive at school in time to register at their House in good time for lessons to begin at 8.40am. Avison students will be free at 3.40pm and should be collected from

House by 4.00pm. Senior students should be collected by 6.00pm (unless they are staying for an approved event). Parents should use the front car park to drop off/collect students. All students

are free at 3.40pm on a Friday unless they are involved in an approved event.

Entrance Code

If you need to access the school site in the evening and the entrance barrier is lowered, you can use the code

3256 which will give access until 9.00pm. If there is need to access after this time, this will need to be arranged

individually with Houses or the appropriate member of staff.

Reporting of Absences

If a student wishes to miss school for any reason, a parent or guardian must make a detailed absence request by

email, 14 days in advance, to studentabsence@purcell-school.org.



Regular Communication

We use a number of ways to communicate with you and

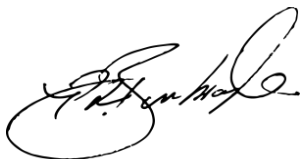
these are outlined below:

Weekly Highlights	This is where we celebrate our students' achievements (both in and out of school) on the school website here . A link is circulated each week.
Parent Newsletters	These do not follow a regular pattern but are published when there is information to circulate. They are distributed via SchoolPost and available on the school website here .
<i>Crescendo</i>	This is our official magazine and features articles about the work of the school and contributions from the staff and student body. It is published once every half term here .
Principal's Update	If you receive a message via SchoolPost entitled Principal's Update the message will contain important and possibly urgent information which we would ask you to read as soon as you can. We have published more of these over the past 14 months than we would usually anticipate (!) but there will be times when I need to inform you of something important and this designation is an easy way for you to know that the message should be read immediately.

I hope this is a helpful start point, but do please call us (or drop us a line) if you need any further information or assistance at any time.

I am much looking forward to seeing you soon whether that will be at a concert, a visit or just in the carpark when you are undertaking the "School-run"! Do feel free to stop me for a chat if you see me around – it is always lovely to see you.

With all good wishes,



Paul Bambrough
Principal

