



Archway

23 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Uniform

We have reached the end of a successful Term 1 and I would like to thank you for supporting us in our aim to keep all students looking smart. A polite reminder that after the half term break, the old, non-pleated skirts are no longer a part of the school uniform. The vast majority of students are wearing suitable coats to school, but a few have told us that they do not have a coat. As the weather closes in, please do your best to ensure that your son/daughter has a waterproof coat to bring to school. Finally, some students have been wearing trainers to school; this should only happen if they have PE/Games first period of the day and even then they must bring their shoes to wear for the remainder of the day.

Peripatetic Music Lessons

We are able to run some peripatetic music lessons, but not all, according to our COVID risk assessment. If you would like to book some lessons, please email the school and we shall help to co-ordinate this for you.

Behaviour

Behaviour of the vast majority of students has been very good this term. Staff have been allowing students to adjust to our new school day structure. After half term our Disruption Free Learning System will remain in place and we expect students to continue to adhere to these clear expectations in all lessons.

COVID-19

The vast majority of students are complying with our new rule on mask wearing, but we cannot be complacent and I encourage all students to get into the habit of placing their mask in a plastic bag in their rucksack as part of the daily routine. Some students have told staff that they do not need to wear a mask because they have asthma. The latest advice from Asthma UK is *“Most people with asthma, even if it’s severe, can manage to wear a face mask for a short period of time, and shouldn’t worry if they need to wear one. Wearing a mask does not reduce a person’s oxygen supply or cause a build-up of carbon dioxide. You may have read stories that say that it can, but this isn’t true”*. The school is aware of a very small number of students with severe medical conditions which preclude the use of a mask, but the above message from Asthma UK is clear.

Stranger Danger

The school and wider community has been concerned at the events which took place in Stroud this week. Students were spoken to yesterday and reminded of the need to be vigilant. The local police have been very supportive and should you have any additional information, they are keen for this to be passed on to them as part of their ongoing investigation by calling 101.

Access to Food

In these difficult times, Gloucestershire County Council has provided information about how you may obtain food during the holidays. Please click this link to view the pdf information leaflet for more advice:

<https://www.archwayschool.net/attachments/download.asp?file=628&type=pdf>

PTA

The first PTA meeting for many years took place this week. Thank you to the parents who came. We are now on a recruitment drive! The team already have some good ideas of how they can help to improve Archway’s facilities.

Yours faithfully

Kieron Smith
Headteacher