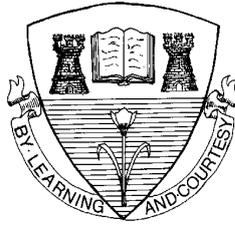


**HARLAW**



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DI/JT

29 May 2017

Dear Parent,

As you will be aware we are starting the new timetable and welcoming seniors back from study leave this week. I will be meeting all the pupils at assemblies and will take the opportunity to look back on things and to re-affirm some expectations going forward.

In the case of our new S2 and S3 I spoke about the many positive things we had to look back on including a really successful forest walk last week. I asked the youngsters to take encouragement from the positive things they have been involved in.

I also asked them to reflect on some of the negative things too. These negatives include some of the cruel/offensive behaviour of youngsters to each other (in the community and on-line), daily disruption to some classes and the behaviour of some youngsters on the journey to and from school and at lunchtime.

At the assembly I emphasised our heightened expectations going forward. Expectations which are based on our 3 behaviour statements or 'rules':

- Respect people
- Respect learning
- Respect community

I urged them to take individual and collective action to step up and set even higher standards in all aspects of their time at school.

In the assemblies I also mentioned two aspects around safety:

- **School Security** – the only people in the school are those who are supposed to be. With that in mind I am reminding all staff to wear ID badges and all pupils to wear the school uniform. Pupils also need to register on time, sign in at the office if late and sign out at the office if they have an appointment.
- **Allergies/safety** – later this week we are likely to be joined by two dogs in the school. One is a therapist who will work with some groups to help with their learning. The other is a guide dog who will be with a new Computing teacher who is starting with us. If your child is allergic to, or fearful of, dogs please let the office or Guidance teacher know. We will have to make some adjustments to where pupils can leave bags/sit to ensure the teacher and guide dog can move safely through the school.

My overall message to the new S2 and S3 pupils was positive and ambitious. We expect the highest standards of work, behaviour, attendance and appearance. This is a message which we need pupils and parents to support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Innes'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

David Innes