

5th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring Term. We look forward to working closely with you and your child(ren) to provide the best possible quality of education as we head into the new calendar year, following another very successful year for the school in 2023. Please look out for your child(ren)'s Progress Updates in the next few days. This will provide you with a summary of your child(ren)'s attendance, attitude to learning and attainment from the autumn term.

Our heating system is now fully working across the whole school site and I hope there are no further problems throughout the rest of the winter. Thank you for your understanding yesterday with the delay to the start of term.

Student attendance

Last term student attendance was very strong and well above the national average for secondary school attendance in England. Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child(ren) continue to attend school as often as possible. There is very clear evidence from all schools across England and specifically from our school, that those children who attend school regularly secure the highest levels of academic progress. The NHS has created guidance that you may wish to use to support your decision-making as to whether your child is well enough to attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Dropping off and collecting your child from school

Please can I remind all families about the importance of driving and parking safely along Mill Lane and near to the school premises to ensure the safety of all members of the HT community. Parents and carers should not drive or walk onto the school site to drop off or collect your child(ren) at the start or the end of the school day unless there is a necessity to use a disabled space, or there is a prior arrangement with the school. We know it is extremely busy at the start and end of the school day, and would strongly encourage parking a short distance away from the school to help with avoiding congestion at these times.

No traffic can enter or leave the school site at the times shown below, to ensure the safety of our students. Please note, students will be walking through the car park to enter or exit the school site at these times. Should a vehicle try to move in the car park at these times, a member of staff will ask you to remain parked until either 8.40am or 3.10pm. The only exception will be made for emergency vehicles.

AM: From 8.20am to 8.40am

PM: From 3.00pm to 3.10pm

Communication with members of staff

The vast majority of our families communicate with members of staff in a very positive and constructive manner to support their child's education. Thank you for your support and positive engagement with the school. However, on a few occasions in recent months, this has not been the case, and behavior towards reception and/or pastoral staff has not been acceptable. Individual members of staff will continue to behave professionally in such difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement as appropriate of other colleagues. We expect all parents/carers and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way when communicating with the school, and should this not happen, then this will be followed up using our relevant policies.



Thank you for your continued support to ensure we can provide the best possible quality of education for your child(ren) in 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff, Year Achievement Coordinator, or me directly should you need to do so at any time. All staff contact details can be found on the school website: <https://haileyburyturnford.com/contact-us/staff/>

Yours faithfully



Robin Newman
Principal

