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KBO/JBI

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Dear Parents / Carers

It has been another excellent week at Blaise High School as we are really settling into the routine of school life. In particular, this week I have been so impressed with the ambition shown by all students in producing their first week of excellent homework. Students are completing 10 self-quizzing questions every night using their knowledge organisers. Thank you to all parents who have helped make their first week of the full homework routine such a success.

We have also been really pleased to see such high turnout in our Champion's Hour sessions after school. Here students have been able to use our wonderful library to complete their homework, including using the computers to ensure they complete their Hegarty Maths. In particular, on Thursday we had 15% of Y11 staying until 5pm to study in Senior Champion's Hour. Considering we are still 8 months away from the exam season that is a brilliant start. I look forward to reporting those percentages going up and up as the weeks go on.

Last week I told you about the launch of more opportunities at social times and this week we have added even more to that area. I was so impressed to see Mr Pryde leading a lunchtime game of Lacrosse. This isn't a game that a lot of our students were familiar with so it showed real ambition to get them playing. It's a sport that is typical in fee-paying schools across the country, but because we believe in Social Justice Mr Pryde is ensuring that every week our students can play it too. As the Lacrosse club grows and their skills strengthen, I hope to see us competing in the sport later in the year. Speaking of competitive sport, our Netball teams are about to start their season. Next week our Y9 team will play Oasis Brightstowe, we wish them all the best, and have our fingers crossed for a big win. The team has been in careful training all week including a brilliant friendly warm up match with Y9 vs. Y11. The Y11 team did win, but it was a very fair game so there is every chance that the younger Y9 will win once competing against their own age group. In particular, Ms Griffiths, Head of PE, wanted to congratulate Rhianna Durrant and Amelia Grover-Brown for proving themselves to be star players on the netball court. Good luck to our team for this Tuesday!

Finally, this week I have had the privilege of recruiting two brilliantly talented members of our school into new roles. Firstly, Mrs Chinn, who will now take the role permanently of Head of Year 7. Mrs Chinn is an outstanding staff member and has excelled in her role in Thrive. She has been working tirelessly to ensure all our Y7 transitioned well into Blaise High, as temporary Head of Year and it is with great pleasure that I announce that she will undertake the role permanently. Mrs Chinn displays Blaise High School's values in all that she does. She believes wholeheartedly in inclusion and works with all our staff and students to ensure their ambitions can become a reality no matter the challenges they face. Secondly, Mr Wallis has been appointed Director of Fun. This

is a role that is unique to Greenshaw Learning Trust and really demonstrates our values of collaboration. We believe in a better chance of success for all our students and staff, but this is about more than academic qualifications. We want to ensure we work well together and are happy in what we do and the Director of Fun role is key in this. Mr Wallis is the perfect person for the job because he is incredibly creative, is passionate about celebrating diversity and cares deeply about the wellbeing of all. In his role he organises Fun Friday's weekly, ensures staff are rewarded for their dedication, helps us to remember everyone's birthday and organises whole community events. Today for Fun Friday, Mr Wallis has organised, along with our student leaders, a cross bar challenge on the Astro so I look forward to seeing the enjoyment that will bring this lunchtime.

To finish I would like to remind you again of our extremely important dates. Our open evening will be held on Wednesday 25th September from 5:30pm until 8pm with my addresses taking place at 6pm and 7pm. Alongside this, the school will run open mornings so parents can see the school in action. The school will be open from 9:15am to 10:45am on October 1st, 2nd and 3rd. I really look forward to those days so prospective students and parents can see all our wonderful school has to offer.

Yours faithfully



Ms K Brown
Headteacher