



September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As always it was a real pleasure to welcome the students back for another successful year at Pembroke. We also welcome the over 90 new Year 7s.

We are determined that we will continue to make excellent progress as a school despite the situation we have been in for the last 6 months and not let it disrupt the progress that everyone has made over the last three years. As I have stated in previous emails, it has not been an easy 6 months since lockdown began but everyone achieved together and it has put us in a position of strength for when we reopened.

Priory Pembroke continues to go from strength to strength. You only have to look on our Facebook/Twitter to see everything we have done. All of these things reflect the hard work and commitment of both students and staff, and of course the vital support of parents.

Our priorities as a school this year are clear. We must continue to work towards the very best results for students at all Key Stages, focus on the areas identified for improvement and build on this year's successful strategies. I know I can count on your support in this, whatever stage of schooling your child is at.

As you have read on our previous letters and updates we have had to put in a number of restrictions in order to be COVID19 safe. Students have really taken to these changes. I must stress that we must keep safe and follow these rules at all times. They are not a choice, they are mandatory.

Staffing Update

We have a number of staff who joined the expanding team at Pembroke this week.

Miss E Gonzalez Pozo – Spanish

Miss R Hale - Humanities

Mr S Bishell – Science

Miss A Bishop– Student Support

Ms C Lott-Kaul – Student Support

Mrs J Ritchie – Student Support

Mrs R McInerney – Student Support

Uniform

High standards of uniform and personal appearance continue to be an important aspect of Pembroke. We expect our students to wear full school uniform at all times in school and on the way to and home from school. As

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previously stated we are asking students to wear full Pembroke PE kit on the days they have PE. We will not be supporting non-uniform clothes. We welcome your co-operation on this matter and expect students to take pride in their appearance. A reminder also that students should not bring valuables to school as there is no secure place for them to store such items. The safety and well-being of our students is of paramount importance. Consequently, the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices are not permitted on the school site during the day. This is necessary to protect students from cyber bullying. Further to our concerns around safeguarding, it is also apparent that the misuse of such devices can cause disruption during lessons and can distract students from their learning. Students will be permitted to carry mobile phones on their person to help to ensure their safety en route to and from school but they must be switched off when on site. Students are not allowed to use these devices or indeed have them visible at any point during the school day, including break time and lunch time.

Attendance

The school is very proud of the attendance of the vast majority of students. Parents and carers work very closely with us to ensure that their child attends school regularly. We know as a school that high attendance has a direct impact on the performance of students and their ability to be successful in all aspects of their school life. Please continue to support the school and ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time.

Please remember that the government will not allow schools to authorise any holidays and therefore all holiday requests will not be authorised. Parents can apply for leave of absence for exceptional circumstances but a range of documentary evidence will be required to support any application and the decision will always be at the discretion of the Academy. Any leave of absence that is not authorised maybe liable for a fixed penalty notice.

Behaviour

All students are aware of our continued focus on positive behaviour. We continue to have our three rules – Be Ready, Be Safe and Be Respectful. These must be followed at all times. At Pembroke we create a firm foundation for students as they develop into more responsible and resilient members of the wider community. Students will be rewarded along the way for the good that they do. We continue to use the Pembroke Pledge. This had tremendous success over the last few years. Please see more about this in the planner.

Detentions are used in school as a sanction for behaviour which is not in line with the high expectations we have. This is not only to encourage good behaviour in school, which in turn creates the ideal learning environment for your child, but also to deliver a clear message to our students that inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and will be sanctioned accordingly.

Breakfast Club / Afterschool Club

These provisions are up and running. Breakfast club is a drop in service. Its cost £1 per session. Afterschool club needs to be booked in by parents so that we know who to expect and parents are aware where their children are. If this is a provision you need, please can you contact Mrs Chapman fchapman@prioryacademies.co.uk

Communication

We will post events and activities for this academic year on our website and social media pages so that you can have an up to date account of school life. I urge you to view these at regular intervals. We will also continue to publish a termly newsletter.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress, it is important that you get in touch as soon as possible. I would like to remind you of our motto – Achieving Together. We believe this is the only way to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you this year.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Evans

Headteacher

