



28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Parental Involvement

Thank you to those who attended Year 9 Parents' Evening virtually last week. **Year 11 Parents' Evening** is taking place on **Thursday 3rd February** and information has been sent out already about this event. A number of parents and carers attended the 'Teen Brain Session' on Tuesday run by the Charlie Waller Trust which was really informative in helping us support our young people. Can I remind all parents and carers that the website can be visited to access details of other year groups' evenings along with other events.

We appreciate that many parents and carers have used **Class Charts** which has been new to us this year. This is a reminder that the app can be downloaded for use on phones and can also be accessed via the internet.

On **Wednesday 16th February** we are planning on running our **parent/carer forum** where we will look to review our current work with parents and carers and look to discuss other ways we can work together. Further details will follow but this is certainly a date for diaries at this stage.

Co-Curricula Offer

It has been wonderful to see many students participating in lunchtime activities including Performing Arts clubs and sporting activities including fixtures. Our Change and Create teams continue to run and we are so impressed by the work students are doing here. We are delighted that we are able to start planning as well for some of the primary sport festivals where younger children visit our site to take part in activities. We are currently thinking through our Enrichment Week which is scheduled for 20th - 24th June and more details will follow in due course. All of these areas are a really important part of what makes our school what it is.

For those students in Years 7 and 8 who might be interested in joining **Valley Arts Youth Theatre**, please read the following information for further details:

Our super fun and engaging youth theatre is open to anyone aged 7 - 13 (school year groups 3 - 8). Using a variety of games and activities we explore areas of drama including devising, improvisation, scriptwriting etc as well as working on their acting skills. This all helps to build the participants' confidence, teamwork and creativity, both on stage and off!

Weekly sessions take place from 5.45pm - 7.15pm on Wednesday evenings during term time, at The Baptist Hall in Chew Magna. The first session is free to give your child a taste of what the sessions will be like and to meet the Youth Theatre leaders. After this, the cost is £10 per session, with the whole term (or any remaining sessions in the term) payable in advance. We will send details of payment once you have registered on the attached form found here https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pDJSgThvp8zbBlerl_TdA-jcrg8arZ8dm-IPws2oRk/edit

The Youth Theatre is led by professional drama practitioners Laura Davies and Casey Lloyd. **Laura Davies** is an actor and workshop leader who has worked with various Theatre in Education companies over the years, touring to schools across the UK and Italy. Laura has been working closely with Valley Arts for the last 5 years, devising and delivering shows and drama workshops for our younger audiences in the Chew Valley. **Casey Lloyd** is a well-known young theatre maker and workshop leader. He has worked with Bristol Old Vic, Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Travelling Light and Theatre Orchard. Casey enjoys creating innovative, exciting theatre that engages with local communities. If you have any queries at all, please contact Laura on laura.davies@valleyartscentre.co.uk.

Second-Hand Uniform Sales

The School Society are looking to advertise the opportunity to purchase recycled uniform and is offering the opportunity to do this in the Library on a regular basis on the fourth Tuesday of each term starting at 3.45pm. This will therefore take place on the following dates:

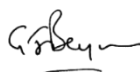
- 22nd March
- 17th May
- 28th June

We hope families will make use of this along with perhaps donating uniform that no longer fits your child(ren).

Face Masks on Home to School Transport

Following the Prime Minister's announcement that from Thursday 27th January, face coverings are no longer recommended in communal areas for staff and students in Year 7 and above, it is however recommended that **students continue to wear face coverings on home to school transport services**, unless they have an exemption.

With very best wishes



Gareth Beynon
Headteacher