



21 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

First and foremost we wish all families in the Brune Park community a wonderful time during the Christmas holidays. It has been a long term and we can see that the students are looking forward to some quality rest and recuperation.

The vast majority of students deserve their break from school because of the contributions they have made these past few months. We are delighted by the way so many have adjusted to the higher expectations we have been introducing, from prompt starts to lessons to building the resilience to sustain their application in the classroom for an entire lesson, especially when they are finding the work and standards more challenging.

It is not surprising that there will be a reaction from a few when we will not tolerate them disrupting the learning of others. They are having to learn that they have a responsibility to try harder, because if everything were easy then progress in their studies would not be as great as it should be. It is very gratifying to observe those students who want to be pushed because they seek improved outcomes for themselves. The sense of desire to achieve beyond what one might have thought one can achieve has to be the aim for everyone.

Particular thanks go to colleagues whose attendance this past term has been exemplary. Obviously, no one can help it if they become ill and it is right that they should get themselves better before returning to work. Yet, in the same way we acknowledge high levels of attendance in the students, we wish to recognise colleagues who have been in school nearly every day throughout this long term, if not every day.

You will recall our commitment to work hard to try to ensure the school is fully staffed, because we aim to have all classes taught by colleagues who are working at the school as employees of the GFM, rather than as temporary teachers from agencies. This aim becomes more difficult to accomplish when absences become high, and we know that high levels of illness this and last month has disrupted too many lessons. In order to prevent this happening again to such an extent we have made some changes to how 'cover' is organised in the school. Also, we have been working tirelessly to continue to recruit more staff and, as well as those who have joined in recent weeks, we have a good number starting as employees of the school in January.

Further thanks go to the Parent Support Group who have met several times and have been influencing the leadership of the school and the opportunities being arranged for both students and parents. Events in the past term have included an evening where parents and carers supported the school in thinking about how we can improve on how we report home on the progress made by their children. We are also implementing changes to the way we manage bullying in the school as a result of input from parents. We see this aspect of our school improvement endeavours as vital, as we believe we are all in this together and collectively we can bring about sustainable improvement.

We would like to share the improvement journey with you and invite you to join us on our 'Proud of our School Day' which takes place on Friday 2 February 2018 from 9.00am. We are also joined on this day by our local MP, Caroline Dinenege, who will be meeting with our Senior Prefect Team. The event will be an opportunity for parents to tour the working school in action and for our students to share with you their pride in our improving school. Further details to follow.

Please keep an eye out for other events that will be run in 2018, such as the 'Parent Walking Talking Mock' that Mr Searley is organising and the Curriculum and Careers Information Evening that Mrs Halls is arranging. The dates of these are Wednesday 17 January 2018 and Wednesday 21 February 2018 respectively.

We, therefore, wish you a very happy New Year and we shall see our students returning to school on 4 January refreshed and keen to work even harder than they ever have!

Yours sincerely



**Ian Potter**



**Kirstie Andrew-Power**

N Matthias

**Nige Matthias**



**David Hall**

The Headship Team  
Brune Park Community School and Bay House School and Sixth Form  
Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust



**Dates for your Diary:**

**Spring Term 2018**

From 4 January 2018 to 29 March 2018  
(Half Term: 12 – 16 February 2018)

**Summer Term 2018**

From 16 April 2018 to 23 July 2018  
(Half Term: 28 May – 1 June 2018)

**Parents' Evenings**

Year 9 Parents' Evening – 10 January 2018  
Year 11 Parents' Evening – 24 January 2018  
Year 9 Options Evening – 7 February 2018  
Year 8 Parents' Evening – 28 February 2018  
Year 7 Parents' Evening – 25 April 2018  
Year 10 Parents' Evening – 9 May 2018

**INSET (Staff Development) Days** (no students in school)

Friday 26 January 2018  
Monday 23 July 2018