



7 September 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the new term at Ysgol John Bright. I am delighted and very impressed with the way our young people have returned to school after the break. After six weeks it can often be quite a shock to the system. They really have come back with very positive attitudes and a commitment to engaging with learning in the classrooms. We've also been really impressed with the way our new Year 7 students have settled into school; navigating such a large site has challenged one or two of them but so far none of them have got lost! Thank you for your support in ensuring that our young people are in the correct uniform and have the necessary equipment for learning, allowing them to make such a positive start.

If you drop your children off at school you will hopefully have noticed our senior members of staff (wearing the orange high viz jackets) greeting students, at the entrance to school. Teachers and support staff are all out on the corridors to ensure that students have a calm and welcoming start to the school day. I would like to thank you all for your support with our new mobile phone policy. Phones are now in bags before students enter the school and switched off until after they have left the site at 3.10pm. In just one week we have noticed that our young people are engaged more in conversations with their friends, rather than spending their breaks and lunchtimes staring at their phones in social isolation. We see that as a very positive move and one that we hope will minimise the dependency some of our young people have with their devices. They may not need to charge their mobiles up quite so much!

Sodexo have been carrying out an extensive refurbishment programme over the summer holidays. This programme extends from having a new school automatic front door, new hall and sports hall flooring, extensive recarpeting through to completely remodelled toilet blocks. We are all very fortunate to be working in such a well resourced and cared for school!

On a final note could I ask you to ensure your child has either a waterproof coat or umbrella if they walk to school. Unfortunately the weather has not been kind to us this week and a significant number of our students have had to start the day soaking wet!

I look forward to meeting you throughout the year. Do keep an eye on our website and your emails so that you keep well informed on any up and coming events. **As a final reminder there are three school training days this term and these are on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st September and Monday 5th November, so school will not be open to students on those days.**

As always, if you do have any concerns or issues that you need to raise, please do contact the school and let us work with you to sort them at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Ann Webb
Headteacher



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