



EL/td/131219

13th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this term draws to a close, we are keeping up the pace here at Colmers with a tremendous amount of work going on within and beyond lessons. This term has been full of wonderful opportunities for students and if you have not yet scanned our **Facebook page and Twitter feed**, please do take a look to get a flavour of how we are **Achieving Excellence** through **Belonging Together** and **Challenging Mindsets**.

Safety

As ever, the safety of students remains top priority here at Colmers. With knife crime so frequent in the news, we have been doing more work with our students to alert them to the **risks and dangers** of drugs, county lines and carrying weapons. We have been giving regular messages to students that we are a **"telling school"**: we expect students to let us know if they or others are in any danger or feel unsafe in school for any reason and we ask that you do the same. You are all encouraged to use our **SHARP system**, designed to help any member of our community alert us to concerns. The SHARP system can be accessed at colmers.thesharpsystem.com and via our school website. This can be done anonymously if you or your child are concerned about providing your name.

Newbuild

We are hugely excited to see our **new building** taking shape with the steel frame now going up. I cannot imagine a worse period of weather for the start of a build project. Thank you to everyone, including our amazing staff team, for adapting **travel to school** and **parking** arrangements – please do keep avoiding Belton Grove and use neighbouring locations for school drop off so that all of our students are safe on their way into and out of school. The build project is on track for us to be moving into the newbuild next October, with the demolition of the current building and new car park ready by the following Easter.

Staffing Update

We are delighted to be welcoming **Mrs Summerfield** to lead **Food Technology** from January and **Mr Clarke** will also be back with us leading our **Art team** to cover Mrs Lewis on her maternity leave from the end of January. We are sorry to see **Ms Gurney** depart from Colmers and wish her all the very best on the next stage of her career.

Last Day of Term Arrangements and Future Events

As is traditional at Colmers, we will have a special **end of term** morning and students will be dismissed from school at **12.30pm**.

School opens for students on **Tuesday January 7th** after our first staff INSET day of 2020 on Monday 6th January. **The Year 11 Parent/Carer evening** takes place during our first week back on **Thursday January 9th** and will be a very important opportunity for students and their parents/carers to find out about how they have done in their recent examinations.

Our **Sixth Form Open Evening** is now taking place on **Thursday January 16th** and we look forward to seeing any student interested in finding out more about our fantastic post-16 offer. Please see below for a full list of calendar dates for your diary.

Wishing you all a very peaceful break over the festive season and a wonderful start to the New Year.

Ms E Leaman
Headteacher



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 17 th December	Drop Down Day 2
Friday 20 th December	School Closes for Christmas Holidays at 12.30pm
Monday January 6 th	Staff INSET day – school closed for students
Tuesday January 7 th	School opens for students
Thursday 9 th January	Year 11 Parents/Carers evening
Thursday 16 th January	Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 30 th January	Year 8 Parents/Carers Evening
Thursday 6 th February	Year 12 & 13 Parents/Carers Evening
February 17 th – 21 st February	Half Term Holiday