

Thursday 5th July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I don't think any of us can recall the weather being so Californian for so long and despite the temperatures we have banned any complaints about how hot it is because, as we know, we have plenty of wind and rain in the country! With this and other things in mind I wanted to write to you today and relay some key information and messages.

School Uniform:

Permitting your children to wear their PE kits to school remains a good solution in this weather. This will continue until the good weather fades but please assume we shall continue to amend our uniform for the foreseeable future. Bearing in mind that most families only have one PE top, we shall, **from Friday 6th July, permit your children to wear a plain t-shirt of any colour.** As long as that t-shirt is not patterned, a club top (e.g. football) or displays large slogans (etc), then we feel families' washing machines may need some assistance to get through the heat wave.

Sadly, the common sense we have applied to our uniform is occasionally misused by students who have come to school in appropriate clothing. Please support us on this response to the hot weather by checking and insisting that your children either (a) wear the normal uniform, (b) wear their PE kit or (c) wear their PE kit with a plain t-shirt. Any other variation will be sanctioned as we would any uniform breach.

Early Closure:

Just a quick reminder that **your children will be finishing school at 1pm tomorrow, Friday 6th July.** This enables us to run our annual BBQ and ice cream van to say a temporary farewell to our new Year 6 recruits. Our soon-to-be Year 7s are really lovely and have had a great week getting know us and their new school.

School Day from September:

Subject to Governing Body approval, the school day will change next year, following an extensive consultation with all members of our school community. **From September, every day will continue to begin at 8:45am and every day will end at 3:10pm.** Our Learning Hub is a beautiful space that is open to all students if they wish to stay safely on our site until 4:30pm each day. I will provide many more details about the school day timings, school calendar and other information in my next letter to you at the start of the final week of term. This will coincide the publication of our Annual Handbook for Parents and Carers.

Sports Day – Friday 13th July 2018:

We have **our annual Sports Day next Friday 13th July.** You will be aware of other letters about this from Mr Wilcox but I wish to remind you that your **children must come to school with a cap, plenty of water and sun cream.** It's going to be a sunny and hot day and we want to ensure there are no burned scalps, noses, ears or arms and we rely on you to ensure your children have everything they need for the day. We shall have supplies on the playing fields of course, but count on you to help us ensure your children stay safe in this California heat wave.

HEADTEACHER
Mr Barry Doherty

www.colmers.bham.sch.uk

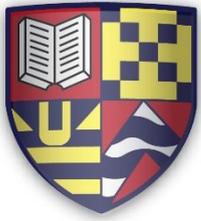
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College and University Taster Days

A big thank you to Mrs Roberts for organising all of the visits to local colleges and universities this week. We were delighted with the feedback from students but also the colleges and universities – one of whom emailed to say, 'Having taught your year 10s, what a well- behaved bunch they are; especially when compared to other schools. A credit to themselves and you.'

Thank you:

Your children have been magnificent during this hot weather. The sun has brought out the best in them and has made the last few weeks very enjoyable for all. Many of us are very weary-eyed after **last night's Year 11 Prom** which was, as you might expect, a truly memorable occasion. More on that and other news in my newsletter in a few days' time

Yours sincerely,

Barry Doherty

Headteacher

