



Dear Students, Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK! FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

Monday 8th March is just around the corner and I'd like to take this opportunity of welcoming you all back to your schools.

The past eleven (nearly twelve) months of this pandemic have been incredibly hard for everyone. So many different things have impacted upon us all, from work, recreational time and not to mention your schooling.

Everyone has made sacrifices and my deepest condolences for those most sadly affected.

We are it seems, at a turning point and there defiantly **is** light at the end of the tunnel. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of you for your help, amazing support and the maturity that you have shown. You have all conducted yourselves brilliantly, and for that you should be immensely proud, as I know your parents/carers and teachers are, as am I.

Now I know that for many of you, 8th March will be the first time in a long time that you have attended your schools. Some of you may be feeling excitement (I hope) at going back and seeing your friends again, being able to sit in a classroom opposed to having to complete your online lessons.

Some of you may be feeling anxious, and this is completely normal. Please do not worry yourself, your excellent school staff are there to help - contact them if you are worried about anything. If it's something I can help with, ask them to get in touch with me.

With the excitement of going back, please let's not forget our school values. This is YOUR school. YOUR community. YOUR futures.

Our schools staff have had an incredibly hard time also, making sure that everyone is safe and having to put into place rules which some of you might not fully understand. That's ok, just be assured that the rules are there to keep us all safe.

Starting from Monday 8th March I know that many will be going in for Covid tests and then returning home. I have asked that some of my PCSO colleagues will be in and around your schools. I will be there also. Don't be alarmed if you see them or me, we are there to welcome you back. Say hello and give us a wave!

This is a new start for many of us, and I am thrilled to say that over this year, I will be bringing some outside provision into the schools to add and complement your learning. These include taster sessions with Redditch United Football Club, Birmingham Bulls American Football Club, Birmingham Opera Company, Martial Arts and I will be delivering inputs on AllStars with the RSPCA, covering lots of different topics, amongst others.

I look forward to seeing you all soon,

PC 3264 Matt Shakespeare
Northfield Constituency Schools & Young Person Link Officer
West Midlands Police.