



# Walderslade Girls' School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

9 December 2022

I wanted to write to you this week as we embark on our final full week in the Academy before Christmas to update you on in school proceedings and where we are currently at with regard to student behaviour and staffing.

Firstly, a positive, over the last 4 weeks we have encouraged the WGS school rules and the 3-warning behaviour system. This has worked well and the number of positive points is far outweighing the negative. In the last 7 days, staff have given out over 3000 positive points. It is fantastic to see the difference this praise for students makes around the Academy. In addition, we have ordered more postcards as we have depleted our stock from September, well done to all those who have been bringing their postcards home.

Rewarding students is a key priority at School, and so as we move towards the festive period and the end of term, some students will be coming off timetable to take part in the school show, to make gingerbread and be in receipt of some sweet cones being put together by fellow students. Please look out for these on social media, and ask your daughter about the rewards she is getting at school! I hope you are all receiving the emails.

Some parents have asked about staff absence at School. Absence has been a little higher than usual with the continuation of COVID plaguing both students, staff and staff dependants. In addition, we have had the usual influx of colds and flu symptoms. Please try to send your daughter to school throughout this period, as we do try to continue working even when feeling under the weather.

Other staff shortage remains in some areas of the school, and we will say good bye to some staff at the end of this term. Nationally, there is a teacher recruitment crisis and we have experienced the results of this, however, we are moving to be fully staffed in every area of school as soon as is feasible. We have identified a weakness in staffing in our admin support and will making some new appointments in the pastoral team to support dealing with bullying issues highlighted as a concern by both parents, students and staff.

As we return in the new year I would like to take this opportunity to mention that the 'small things' matter. Blazers are a compulsory part of the uniform, and there will be a drive in January to ensure every student has one, if your daughter has left it in her locker or has outgrown it, please make sure a new one is ready for our return on 4th January 2023.

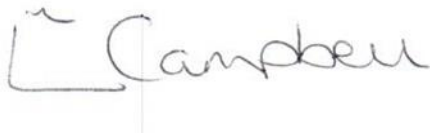


In addition to blazers, dressing for winter is an expectation on students, the weather is cold and is set to continue to be. The heating in school is on all of the time, however in order to stay healthy students need fresh air, so we will encourage all students to go outside at break and lunch time. Line up is compulsory. Therefore, I would ask that students bring coats, gloves, hats and scarves to school, and wear tights if they wish.

Please do continue to communicate with the Academy, the school facebook messenger service is manned by senior leaders, you can email the office or please do get in contact with your daughters form tutor or head of year. I have attached the trust complaints policy to this letter, if you have a complaint, please do follow the system so it can be dealt with as we are committed to getting things right for your daughter. Unfortunately the school does not have access to the parents facebook page, and the messages on there are not shared with the school, so issues cannot be resolved if they are only raised on this platform.

I shall write again next week to update you on the last week of term schedule and our return to school plans in January 2023.

Have a good weekend



Mrs L Campbell

Deputy Headteacher

