

3rd April 2025

Dear Families,

I am writing with my end-of-term update for Term 4. In this letter you will find details of what has been happening this term, important information about uniform standards and PE kit, and a staffing update.

Around the Academy

There has been much to celebrate this term! Particular highlights include the Year 11 boys' rugby team being crowned county champions, in a fitting end to their five year career at Churchill. We've also had some amazing performing arts triumphs, including the incredible *Dance Live!* performance, the M Stars Competition, and our Spring Concert this evening. Our Chess Team has also been competing well, and we have held our annual Spelling Bee and Poetry By Heart competitions in school. And that's just scratching the surface: be sure to read our weekly newsletter, or the [Academy News page on the website](#), to keep up-to-date with all the latest from our wonderful students.

We have also been really pleased with the response from students to our recent push on "making the most of your lesson time." As a result, we have seen a significant improvement in lesson attendance and punctuality, as well as students organising themselves effectively during the school day. This has led to some really productive dialogue with students and families, and I'd like to thank parents and carers for your continued support of the Academy.

Uniform

The vast majority of our students continue to come to school in perfect uniform every day, and we're very grateful for the support of families in keeping their standards so high. After Easter, we are going to be tightening up on uniform policy breaches, including students in jogging bottoms or leggings instead of school trousers, incorrect footwear and socks, and breaches of the jewellery rules. It is frustrating for the majority of students, who work hard to ensure they are in the correct uniform, to be let down by the few.

Please could all families check the [uniform policy published on our website](#) and ensure that students are sent to school in the correct uniform. It is especially important that any false nails or eyelashes that students have on over the holidays are removed, and hair is a natural colour, before returning to school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Students who breach the uniform code will need to correct their uniform before they can access lessons. We will continue to provide items for students to wear if they don't have them with them to ensure that they do not miss out on vital learning. If students have excess jewellery, this will be confiscated. It will save everyone a lot of time if students follow the uniform code! With thanks in advance for your support.

Updated PE kit

Following the recommendations of a focus group of student leaders, new items of PE kit are now in stock with our uniform suppliers. Our student leaders chose the new kit as it is more modern, up-to-date and comfortable, and they are really looking forward to wearing it! The old PE kit is still perfectly acceptable to wear for practical lessons, so please don't feel you need to rush out to buy the new kit. We expect the old kit to be gradually phased out and replaced over the next five years.

Staffing update

After many years of dedicated service to the Academy, our Deputy Headteacher Mrs Frances Dawes is retiring at Easter. I know you will join me in thanking Mrs Dawes for all she has done for Churchill, and wishing her a long and happy retirement.

As a result of Mrs Dawes' retirement, we have made some changes to our leadership structure. Our Assistant Headteacher Mr Davies will be taking over the leadership of behaviour in our new Behaviour Hub, which will combine our Refocus Room with a range of support structures to help ensure that students are fully equipped to follow the policies and expectations of the Academy.

Congratulations to Ms North, who will take on the role of Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator after Easter. Ms North will be working with house and school councils, and coordinating inter-house competitions

including the House Cup, as part of her new role. We wish her the best of luck with this important part of our wider curriculum offer.

We also wish Ms Bogonosov every happiness as she starts her maternity leave over the Easter holidays.

Staffing changes with effect from after Easter are summarised below:

Staff name	New Role
Mr G Davies	Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Culture
Mr O Corke	Leader of Learning for Social Sciences (maternity cover)
Mrs N Webber	Intervention Coordinator
Ms R North	Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator
Ms T Hopton	Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Mathematics
Mr D Garrett	Leader of Learning for Science (KS4)
Mrs J Cox	Co-director of Faculty for Art, Design and Technology (maternity cover)
Miss M McIntyre	Behaviour Coordinator
Mrs P Strachan	Behaviour Coordinator

All that remains is for me to wish you all a happy Easter. Term begins again on Tuesday 22nd April - we look forward to seeing you then.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hildrew

Headteacher