



November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Autumn Newsletter – second half of term**

The first half of the Autumn Term was, as always, very busy. There were many highlights, including our annual Prize Giving in Sherborne Abbey where our guest speaker was Alan Power, Head Gardener and Estate Manager at Stourhead. Our Y6 Open Evening was very well attended; there was a real buzz around the school as our students guided visitors around and were excellent ambassadors. Carey Camp was very successful and allowed the Y7s to get to know their tutor and their tutor group. More details about these events, and many others, will be provided in our Autumn Term @Gryphon newsletter that will be published in December.

### **Gryphon School Local Governing Body**

Our new Governing Body is nearly complete and the Governors will meet on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November to consider, amongst other things, the school improvement plan, safeguarding and student progress. Many thanks to those parents who put themselves forward to take on this very important role.

### **Key dates this term**

- Y7 Parents' Evening – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November
- School Concert – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- PPEs for Y11 – 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November
- Non-uniform day for Children in Need – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- INSET Day (school closed to pupils) – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- Carol Service in Sherborne Abbey – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm
- Last Day of Autumn Term – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – school finishes for students at 2pm.

### **Keeping in touch**

Following our Y6 Open Evening I have had the pleasure of showing many prospective students and their parents around the school; if you would like to come and see the school "in action" during the school day please do contact us. The Senior Leadership Team of the school are always available on a "drop-in" basis after school on a Thursday and we also attend all of the Parents' Evenings.

### **Bus Update**

Our Bursary was able to take swift action following the sudden closure of Nippy Buses and the bus routes were reinstated within 24 hours. A great example of teamwork!

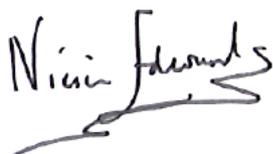
## **Bad Weather**

If the school has to close because of bad weather, information will be provided on the school website, via Twitter and Facebook. We will also aim to send texts with updates. We always aim to give information as soon as possible and work in close partnership with our transport providers to ensure the safety of students.

## **Sixth Form Applications**

Applications to our Sixth Form are made via a link on the website. The closing date for general applications is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Students wishing to apply for one of our scholarships should apply by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

We are looking forward to an exciting half term, culminating in the excitement of the Christmas season! I hope to see many of you at our Carol Service on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December which always provides a wonderful start to festivities.



Nicki Edwards  
Headteacher

