

15 October 2024

Dear Parents

A few notes for your consideration

October Half Term

As we approach the October half term a reminder that we finish at 3.30pm on Friday 18 October and return on Monday 4 November, this is a normal school day.

Attendance

We were doing well and above the attendance levels of last year, but attendance has slipped in the last week. A reminder from my previous correspondence, we cannot authorise holidays for any reason. Those students taking holidays in school time are likely to face penalty notices. The expectations for student attendance, as defined by the government and enforced by Kent County Council, have been toughened this year.

Free School Meals Vouchers

Kent County Council will be providing vouchers to parents of students eligible for free school meals to cover the October half term period. This funding has been determined at £10 per eligible child. These vouchers will be delivered via Wonde as they have in previous holidays and parents should receive them on Friday 18 October 2024.

Knole Community Store

Knole Academy operates a community store to provide essential items to families who are facing financial hardship. A lot of our fundraising is used to ensure the shop is sufficiently provisioned. At Christmas, we try to provide items that may make the holiday season more enjoyable. If any parents or businesses wish to make donations to the community store for Christmas or to support its work throughout the year, they would be greatly received.

The bank details for the community store are AAT t/a Knole Academy Sort Code 30-93-60 Account 82420468

Mobile Phones

Mobile phone bans in school have been in the news a great deal lately, so it is timely to remind all parents of our mobile phone rules. We expect mobile phones to always be 'off and away' during the school day. Away means in lockers; should mobile phones be seen, they will be confiscated for collection at the end of the school day, 3.30pm.

Best wishes



David Collins