



EMWL6.1.23

6 January 2023

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas holiday and got time to spend with family and friends.

We have had a good first week back, even if it has been a bit of a shock to the system for everyone!

Every student attended an assembly with myself and the senior team on the first day back where we discussed some of our priorities for this term:

- **Attendance** – we really need our students to be in school so that they can be in lessons and learning. We spoke to everyone about how this needs to be an absolute priority for us all at the moment.
- **Presentation** – we also spoke to students about the importance of presenting their work well in lessons. This is so that they can use their books/booklets as learning journals and can understand what they have done when they look back on it. It is also linked to respect and taking in pride in what they are doing.
- **Reading** – I have mentioned this previously but we are really focusing on the importance of reading for pleasure with all of our students. We know a lot of them read at home a lot anyway, but we will be doing more as a school going forward. As part of this drive, we are asking all students to have a reading book with them at all times in school and we are also asking them to complete at least 30 mins of reading for pleasure a day – although I know most do a lot more!

It is our second college Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 18 January starting at 17.30 with a talk from our Head of College, Mr Ellwood. It would be fantastic to see as many year 11 students and parents/carers there as possible to find out about what we have to offer.

I hope you have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Best wishes and take care,

Emma Mills

Dates for your diary

Thursday 12 January: 2nd Dose HPV vaccine for yr 9 students

Wednesday 18 January: Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photos

Wednesday 18 January: Birchwood College open evening 5.30pm- 7.00pm (Head of College talk 5.30pm)

Thursday 26 January: Year 7/8 Parns Sermo – Parents evening 3.30pm -6.30pm more information next week.

Thursday 2 February: Year 11 Performance Review parents evening – more information next week.



Birchwood
Community High School



Birchwood
College

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