

EM WL 10.2.2023

Dear parent/carers,

Thank you for your continued support this week at Birchwood.

We have had a range of events taking place including our Year 9 Futures evening which was a great success. Students have all been able to hear from Heads of Faculty and even try taster events that will support option choices for Key Stage 4.

There have been several sporting events. We hosted the Warrington Indoor Athletics championships on Tuesday and some of our students were ambassadors supporting with the event of competing in it. It was great to see so many local children take part.

Throughout this week we have reminded all children about our behaviour expectations at Birchwood.

Assemblies took place this week to remind students about behaviour standards and to also visit the topic of misogyny which we have been increasingly concerned about. You may be aware that the social media influencer "Andrew Tate" is a concern for many schools due to his extreme misogynistic views. He is often grooming young males and exposing them to views and attitudes about women that are unacceptable. Students have all received an additional assembly this week to reinforce this message.

In looking forward to next week, we have a range of events taking place before we break up for half term including drop down day on Wednesday.

With regards to next Friday, we will finish early at 2pm. Following student requests, it will also be a non-uniform day. Students have asked to contribute a £1 to come in their own clothes in order to raise money for charities that are supporting people in Turkey and Syria following the earthquake disaster. We have been very sad to see the devastation caused by the earthquake and we are very proud that our students want to help.

Whilst we will finish at 2pm on Friday, students will still complete 5 lessons. The structure of the day is below:

#### KS3

8.45 – 9.45 Period 1  
**9.45-10.00 Break**  
10.00-11.00 Period 2  
11.00-12.00 Period 3  
**12.00-12.30 Lunch**  
12.30-1.15 Period 4 (45 mins)  
1.15-2.00 Period 5 (45 mins)

#### KS4

8.45-9.45 Period 1  
9.45-10.45 Period 2  
**10.45-11.00 Break**  
11.00-12.00 Period 3  
12.00 -12.45 Period 4 (45 mins)  
**12.45-1.15 Lunch**  
1.15-2.00 Period 5 (45 mins)

We also have our PSHE drop down day on Wednesday. Students still wear uniform on this day. They will follow a curriculum that will support their Personal Development and is an important day for all to attend. The content of the day has been sent to all parents on classcharts.

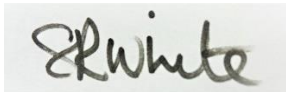
Can I take the opportunity to again remind parents about the importance of school attendance and punctuality. Attendance last week was as follows:

Yr 7- 91%  
Yr 8- 91%  
Yr 9- 92%  
Yr10- 90%  
Yr11- 89%  
Yr12- 90%  
Yr13- 85%

Our target is for all students to be in school for a minimum of 95%. Please continue to discuss the importance with children at home.

Thank you again for your support and have a restful weekend.

Regards,



Sam Rigby-White  
Deputy Headteacher