

Dear Parents/Carers

July 2019

With another term rapidly coming to a close and the summer exam programme complete for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, I once again find myself wondering where the time goes! The summer term has been as busy as ever with all manner of events taking place – Art exhibitions, The ‘Big Sing’, Sports Days, Leavers Assembly, Year 6 induction days and our Year 11 and 13 Proms to name but a few - and that’s only the last few weeks!

Students who were sitting their exams this summer were a credit to themselves and to the school. They approached this demanding time with determination, clear focus and a good deal of resilience. Those who were anxious coped with their emotions admirably and I hope that all students have learnt a valuable life lesson - that life will often throw demanding situations at each of us but everything passes and a new day dawns. Exams are just one momentary measure of our success. There are many other qualities that we should all value highly that can’t be measured by an exam – kindness, compassion, thought for others - that students at this school have in bucket loads. Cherish these qualities too! I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the fantastic support that staff have offered to students throughout this period – the year office team, subject teachers, the exams team and support staff have all worked tirelessly to ensure that students have the best exam experience possible and I would like to thank them all for this dedication to their duties. I hope that everyone enjoys a well-earned break at the end of next week.

End of term arrangements

As is traditional here at CTTC the last day of term (Friday 19th July) will finish a little earlier than usual. Students will attend morning registration, Period 1 and 2, break and Period 3 as normal. At 12:10pm they will go to their tutor groups for a final registration and be dismissed for the summer holidays at 12:30pm. Those requiring lunch will be able to collect a grab bag at this time. Our school transport coaches have been booked for 12:30pm and will depart at 12:40pm.

The Stephen Sutton Bursary Awards

Burntwood Town Council have launched their annual Stephen Sutton Bursary Award. There are two categories of award for students aged 11-14 and 15-19 both of which give the winner a £1000 bursary to be spent as the winner wishes. The award recognises excellence in the following areas:

- 2D and 3D Traditional and Contemporary Performing Arts (e.g. Art, Photography, Music, Dance, Film and Theatre)
- Academic
- All Sports

Full details of how to apply for this bursary can be found on both the school and Burntwood Town Council’s website. CTTC has won both these awards over the last few years – let’s keep this up!

New School Day

As mentioned in my previous letter to you all, following consultation with staff, students and parents we will be altering our school day timings a little from September. We will be making our lunchbreak 10 minutes longer (from 1:10pm to 1:50pm) and cancelling our afternoon registration slot. These changes were universally requested. The overall shape of the day will remain unchanged. We hope that this will give staff the chance to run lunchtime activities again and offer a little more time for lunch and a break from lessons for all.

Arrangements for the beginning of next term - **Wednesday 4th September 2019**

Time	Period	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y13
8.30am	Tutor	8.30am arrive in school Assembly for all of y7 students.					
8.50am	1	REHNV with tutors – biometric scan COMP with tutors AR testing.	9.30am arrive in school. Assembly then with form tutors until break time.				
9.50am	2	COMP with tutors – biometric scan REHNV with tutors AR testing.	Students in form with tutors.	10am arrive in school. 10.30am Assembly then with form tutors until break time.	10am arrive in school. Assembly then with form tutors until break time.	10.30am arrive in school and go straight to form. (8.30am Assembly on Thursday 5th September).	10am arrive in school. Assembly in Common Room. Lessons start after break.
10.50-11.10am	BREAK						
11.10am	3	Lessons start and continue as normal for years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13					
12.10pm	4						
1.10-1.50pm	LUNCH						
1.50pm	5						

Year 12 return from their summer break on Thursday 5th September 2019 at 8.30am. Students to report to their form group.

Time to say goodbye...

[As I am sure you will all be aware, I retire as headteacher of CTTC at the end of the school year.](#) Making a decision to leave a job that you love is never easy, and whilst I am looking forward to the future, the immediacy of leaving my work colleagues, friends and the families of CTTC is really beginning to hit me. I have been working at this school for 13 years – my daughter was born at the end of the first term that I joined the school – and I can honestly say that this has been the happiest time in my career. Although the roles of deputy headteacher and, latterly, headteacher constantly throw up challenges and no two days are the same I have thrived on the demands of these jobs and in trying to make a difference for the better. Working in a school that has a mantra of ‘Live, Love, Laugh, Learn’ couldn’t be nearer to my own moral and ethical position. I passionately believe that these values are essential in today’s society and I hope that the thousands of students who have been through this school during my time here stay true to these principles as they take up their place in the wider world. There can be no greater learning journey than knowing what you believe is right and sticking to this.

I look back on my time at CTTC with great fondness. As is often the case when I speak to our students about their school experience, it is the ‘extra’ things that I find are most memorable – as a teacher in the Performing Arts Department the school shows, concerts and performing arts tours stand out, along with the ski trips, sports days and enrichment weeks amongst numerous other things that punctuate the everyday work that a school has to do. I hope that the education system in the UK will allow all these enriching activities to continue as budgets become ever tighter – these are the things that nourish us as human beings and from which we share the best interactions with others. I have always believed that it is the people that make a school and I have been surrounded by wonderful staff and delightful students – I will miss the people more than anything.

It has been a real privilege to serve the students and families of Burntwood over the last 13 years. As I sign off for the final time, I thank you all for your support and sincerely wish you all the very best for the future.

Tim Chamberlin
(Headteacher)