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Principal: Jennifer Giovannelli

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Dear all

I hope this newsletter finds you well at the end of another busy week.

Improved Conduct During Social Time

Over the past week, we've seen a **noticeable improvement** in student conduct during break and lunch periods, and I want to acknowledge the **positive efforts** of the vast majority of students. We have three simple rules at school: **Be ready, be respectful, and be safe**. These rules are essential for ensuring that lessons and social times are **enjoyable, safe, and disruption-free** for everyone.

Since Wednesday, I've been conducting **daily student briefings** to make sure every child is clear about our expectations. It's crucial that they hear a **consistent and repeated message** about what we expect from them, and I'm reinforcing these expectations in every session to ensure clarity and consistency. We have focused particularly on littering, running in the building, 'playfighting' and overly boisterous behaviour.

While many students have embraced these expectations, there are still a few who have not yet fully aligned with the standards we set. We have been holding formal meetings with those students to address these issues, and we are offering them support to help develop the skills they need to make better choices. However, we've made it clear to students that **persistent poor conduct** will put their place at school at risk. We want every child to feel **safe, happy, and able to learn** without disruption.

Understanding the Difference Between Conduct and Interfering Behaviours

As part of this focus, we've been talking to students about the important difference between **conduct** and **interfering behaviours**, and I want to share this explanation with you as well:

- **Conduct:** Deliberate choices students make about their behaviour. Conduct includes behaviour which students know go against our school rules and is behaviour that they are in control of e.g. walking around the school instead of going to lessons on time, chasing friends in corridors, not putting litter in the bin.
- **Interfering Behaviours:** Actions that come from times when our **rational thinking brain** is temporarily 'offline.' This can happen as a result of **neurodivergence**, or when a student is in a state of **fight or flight**, making it difficult to control behaviour.

We expect all students to take responsibility for their **conduct**—the choices they make consciously and deliberately. Understanding this difference allows us to better support students when they face challenges, while holding them accountable for their choices when they are in control of their conduct.

Recognising Positive Conduct

We are also committed to celebrating the children who consistently do the right thing every day:

- **K-Points System:** As you know, students are awarded K-points for commitment to learning and following the rules. Students are awarded these throughout the day as they demonstrate being committed to learning to the best of their ability - and we know this looks different for different children. The students have fed back to us that they would like us to review the prizes they receive from gaining K points and Mr. Hepworth is working on an exciting plan to introduce a **reward shop**, where students can spend their K-points, as well as looking at reward afternoons, and reward trips.
 - **Hidden Gems:** Since the end of last year, we have asked staff to share and recognise students who quietly demonstrate our three rules and who are positive role models for others on a daily basis. Mr. Theodore is overseeing this initiative to ensure that all students who embody these values are recognised for their efforts. **Mr. Theodore will also be contacting home directly to let you know when your child has been recognised as a 'Hidden Gem,'** so you can celebrate their positive conduct alongside us.
 - **'Kids do well if they can':** We also make sure that we **celebrate the small wins** of students who may find school particularly challenging, recognising their efforts both at school and at home. We will be making sure that these get communicated home too.
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Introducing the Social Time Reward Strategy

Starting next week, we're launching a new **Social Time Reward Strategy**. Every adult in the school—including teachers, support staff, visitors, restaurant staff, site staff—will be issued **social time reward tickets** to hand out to students who consistently demonstrate readiness, respect, and safety during social times.

Students can collect these tickets and exchange them for social time rewards, such as **front-of-the-queue lunch passes, hot chocolate rewards, and complimentary breakfast items**.

Most excitingly, we're creating a **new rewards common room**, which will be accessible to students who accumulate enough tickets. The design of this space will be shaped by the students themselves, and we have talked about potentially having amenities such as a **games console, a pool table, and a music system**. Mr Hepworth will be sharing the new rewards thresholds shortly.

Calendar Administrative Error

It has come to our attention that an **error was made when sharing the school calendar** to the website. Please note that **Friday, 25th October, is a school training day**, and students are **not required to be in school** on that day.

We apologise for any confusion or inconvenience this may cause, especially as it is only three weeks away. If this causes you any problems, please do not hesitate to let us know, and we will do our best to assist.

PE Uniform and Jewellery Update: Important Reminder

A quick reminder regarding **PE uniform expectations** at KSA:

- **Non-KSA Hoodies:** We've seen an increase in students wearing non-KSA hoodies or jumpers on days when students have PE. From Monday, we will be removing non-KSA hoodies. Please ensure your child wears the official KSA PE kit.
 - **Jewellery:** A quick reminder that on PE days, students should be mindful of the jewellery they are wearing. Valuable lesson time is being used to remove or cover piercings. A letter from the PE department with further details has been sent, so please look out for it.
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Upcoming Catering Changes

- **Grab n' Go Station:** Due to unforeseen circumstances, there has been a slight delay in relocating our Grab n' Go station, which was originally scheduled to move on Monday. This, along with the new outlet at the back of the library, will now be ready after the October half-term.

As always, we love feedback so please do get in touch with anything positive or of concern.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Giovanelli