11th September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been a real pleasure to see the boys back this week and as expected they have responded to the new way of working really well. They are now into the routine of hand sanitising regularly, going to their designated social areas at break and lunchtime, using the one-way system and wearing face masks when required. Of course boys (and staff) have forgotten at times, however there have been no incidents of boys not co-operating. I have been particularly impressed with the Senior boys in both Year 10 and Year 11 who are leading others and helping staff establish the new routines.

I attach the first weekly bulletin of this academic year. This will be posted each week on MyEd and the website by 4.30pm each Friday.

Thank you for your patience with dropping off and picking up, which has been particularly busy this week. This should ease slightly next week as more activities are on offer after school. I am grateful also for those of you who are able to pick up your son by 4.00pm when he is not doing an activity. I will review the arrangements for picking up on a Friday next week, as with parents of boarders also due to pick up their son, I anticipate it being busier than usual. Please can you continue to remain in your car when picking up and dropping off.

The bulletin outlines the activities available next week. We are only able to offer these as the boys have been so good at following the new rules and therefore we believe we can offer these safely. Of course this will be reviewed regularly.

I appreciate that the first week has been particularly challenging for the Year 7 boys and their parents as we have been unable to offer our usual induction programme. There is a lot going on at Brymore and there is a lot of new information and routines to get used to. Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any concerns especially as you have not had a chance to meet staff at the end of the first week due to the hog roast not going ahead as planned. We are looking at changing the arrangements for the Year 7 parent consultation so that you do get a chance to meet the tutor in the first half term.

I will inform you of arrangements for the end of the first half term when they have been finalised. Unfortunately, it is very unlikely that we will be able to hold the Harvest Festival and cross country championships in the usual format, however we are determined that they will go ahead in some way or other.

Can you please make sure your son continues to have a face mask and in addition a water bottle. We are unable to allow boys to use the drinking fountains but there are plenty of places where they can fill up a water bottle.

Mark Thomas

Headteacher

Brymore Academy