

Brymore Academy Cannington Somerset TA5 2NB

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An academy sponsored by Bridgwater & Taunton College

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Thank you for all your support and preparation in ensuring that the boys have settled well into the new academic year. They have engaged well in their learning and are already seeing the benefits of working hard in their individual lessons.

I am writing to share some updates for our end of year traditions, specifically around Activities Week and how we celebrate student achievements and recognise those boys who are upholding our expectations. We will be evolving our traditional end of year activities into a more inclusive and frequent reward system. Rather than concentrating all enrichment at the end of the year, we will be offering trips and experiences throughout to recognise student progress, effort, participation and contribution to Brymore life.

I believe that celebrating success and providing enrichment shouldn't be limited to a single week - the boys tell us regularly that they enjoy the frequency of our reading rewards trips. By spreading these rewards across the year, we believe that boys will remain better motivated and engaged as well as ensure that all boys, especially those that find the end of year format challenging, will have access to meaningful experiences. These experiences will be developed over time and vary in offer to take into account the wishes of the boys, with trips such as ice skating and ten pin bowling complemented by trips to Longleat and London.

Students will be invited to take part in these trips based on clearly outlined thresholds. These include:

- Fewer than 15 behaviour points accrued during the term;
- Up to date with Chads runs (should be a minimum of one per week);
- Up to date with duties (including garden duties or feeding duties) and any HoD responsibilities;
- Attendance at Saturday events as outlined in the school calendar. This means that the Harvest Festival should be attended to enable a Christmas visit, the Christmas Service for the Easter visit, as well as the Year 11 Leavers Service and Sports Day to access the summer visit;
- Attendance above 94%, although this will be considered on an individual basis where conversations around medical needs/appointments are known.

Trips are planned to take place before the Christmas break, Easter break and again before the summer break. Our traditional end of year Brymore Activity Day, held on the school site, will remain open to all boys. Each threshold will be reset each term to enable boys to have the opportunity to earn a place and not be held back by previous behaviours.

We understand that at Brymore traditions hold value. These changes have been carefully considered to preserve the spirit of previous Activities Weeks whilst making them more meaningful and equitable. The new model will ensure that we have a broader all year-round model to enrich and recognise the achievements and hard work of the boys.

If you have any questions about these changes or would like to discuss how this might affect your child please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Stefan McHale Headteacher