

Year 9 Letter

January 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope that you had a relaxed and enjoyable Christmas Vacation. It went quickly, and now we're back to the business of making sure your child has a productive, successful and secure 2016.

It is a pleasure to welcome your child back to school and to say, as we often do, how proud we both are of our young people and staff. We are confident that every single student will continue to focus and take sufficient responsibility for their own learning to reach their likely and, very often, their aspirational targets in all subject areas.

This coming autumn, in Y10, the race towards GCSE success begins in earnest. Those students who realise this, and who prepare themselves exceptionally well during Year 9 by working analytically and with maturity, are guaranteed to do well. At Clifton this is the vast majority, we're very pleased to say.

This is an excellent year group and this has been a first-rate year thus far with a great deal of progress made. Every student in the year group stands a very good chance of achieving high levels of performance, and our money is on every single one of them to fulfil their undoubted potential.

The recent HMI inspection judged Clifton to be making reasonable progress towards the removal of special measures and the inspectors will visit again early this year to judge whether we continue to make reasonable progress. We all need to continue to work collectively together – students, parents and staff - to move the school forward and prove that our children are as good as, we think better than, anyone else's!

We thank you in advance for your support

Best wishes for a fulfilling and prosperous new year.

Yours sincerely

David Hudson
Executive Headteacher

Tony Hardcastle
Headteacher

P.S.

1. Communication via social media is on the rise, and sites such as Snapchat, Facebook and Instagram are regularly used by many of our students. When used appropriately, these are useful tools for communication and even learning.

This said, they are open to misuse. Some people feel that they can make cruel and malicious comments on public forums or via messaging services about others, saying things they would never dream of saying in person. We at Clifton see this for what it is, bullying, and we cannot, and will not, accept this.

We therefore require your support as parents in regularly checking your child's phone and social media output.

We'd also suggest that you check who they 'allow' to view their pages, or who they are 'friends' with to ensure that they can only message, or receive messages, from *actual* friends.

You can find advice to support you and your child in these discussions on the school website.

As always, any concerns should, in the first instance, be reported to the SPM office.

Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

2. What follows is a list of dates for your diary for term two and term three this academic year. We hope that you will find them useful:

February half term – Friday 5th February to Monday 15th February 2016

Easter vacation – Friday 18th March to Monday 4th April 2016

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd May 2016

Spring Bank half term – Friday 27th May to Monday 6th June 2016

Summer vacation – Friday 15th July 2016