



8th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to a fruitful and productive academic year ahead. Thank you for your support with the initial Covid testing process which has helped keep our community as safe as possible. Students have completed their induction day and are now following their new timetables. As posted during the summer break, we were delighted with students' achievements in Year 11 and in the Sixth Form and you can read all about their successes at [GCSE Results](#) and [Sixth Form Results](#). Our staff ensured that students were also able to experience a fantastic Year 11 Prom and a wonderful Sixth Form Leavers assembly. Our Sixth Form class of 2020-21 are now excitedly moving to their next destinations including St Andrews, Bristol and York University and some starting apprenticeships in property management and marketing and moving to local colleges. We wish them all the best.

Chromebooks

I am very pleased to confirm that we have completed the distribution of Chromebooks to all year groups who are now fully equipped with the latest technology. Students will need to charge their Chromebooks every evening so that they can access learning resources during the school day. This will enhance students' learning experience both inside and outside of lesson time.

Enhanced Curriculum and Nutrition

Before the summer break, we announced our enhanced **food and exercise provision** for students before and after school. As a reminder:

From 8:00am

- Breakfast available to purchase from Culinera (our restaurant provider)
- Extra curricular sports provision including badminton, football, table tennis, basketball...

From 2:45pm-4:00pm

- Food available to purchase from Culinera
- Extra curricular clubs across a variety of subject areas, sports and Study Zone

Further details regarding the individual clubs on offer will be available shortly and I encourage all students to access this provision to make the most of our superb facilities and expert teaching and support staff.

We will continue with a much smaller staggered finish with Year 7, 8 and 9 lessons finishing at 2:40pm and Year 10 and 11 lessons at 2:45pm. **After lessons, students are welcome to remain in school until 4:00pm to study using their Chromebooks, take part in activities, or visit our restaurant.**

New Website

As you have probably already noticed, we were delighted to launch a new website at www.hertswoodacademy.org with updated pictures and artwork. Please have a look and familiarise yourself with the new layout and let us know what you think! The launch of the new website coincides with updated communications including more regular social media updates and a half termly digital update rather than the previous bi-weekly edition of Hertsbeat.

I wish you and your family all the best for a brilliant academic year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Peter Gillett, Headteacher