



6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

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Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to give you a brief update of school issues discussed at **the parents' forum/PTA social evening** on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

It was good to see so many of you at the evening, and very pleasant to have a less formal discussion than often. In summary, the Chair of Governors, Crispin Truman, and myself gave brief updates on:

- School financial outlook – SNS in particular, linked to the wider education financial situation
- Partnership work with other schools
- Governor priorities for our school
- Student wellbeing initiatives
- Educational developments in the school – including the new GCSE and A level courses, and behaviour management strategies.

We had some discussions about:

- Lunchtime arrangements – we will consult upon these
- Student representation

We also had a short question and answer session. Questions answered included:

- Suggestions about lunchtimes – consultation to follow
- How to ensure students with after school appointments would be able to attend them and not be given a same day detention? – *Please write in your child's planner if there is a specific appointment time. We hope they will behave in a way which means they don't get a detention but should that happen it can be deferred a day if the note is written and signed in advance by a parent/carer.*
- Use of laptops
- Access to counselling by students – we confirmed the red boxes and online sharp system access ([www.thesharpsystem.com](http://www.thesharpsystem.com)) to refer any issues
- PTA fundraising – there is a meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March about this; many parents were keen to support PTA fundraising initiatives
- Access to a support network for parents who are concerned about their child's wellbeing – please look out for a separate email about this.

There are some other meetings coming up on particular aspects of these. These include:

**16<sup>th</sup> March – PTA meeting – 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March – 7pm-8.30pm** – meeting to inform parents/carers/members of the community about funding issues in the local area and their impact on our and other schools

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Best wishes,

Annie Gammon

**Headteacher**

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