Pleckgate High School, Pleckgate Road, Blackburn, BB1 8QA 01254 249134 | info@pleckgate.com | www.pleckgate.com

4th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing at the end of another very positive term. We have been celebrating the success of pupils in achievement assemblies this week with reward visits in recognition of the hard work, excellent attendance and commitment shown by pupils at Pleckgate. We are exceptionally proud of their success and I have attached a copy of our school newsletter here which showcases just a selection of the exciting events that have taken place both in and out of school.

I am proud to let you know that our school is once again over-subscribed and during the summer term we will be hosting a number of events to welcome our new year 7 pupils and prepare them for life at Pleckgate. We are delighted to be the first school of choice for so many parents in our local community.

Our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Ferguson is leaving us this term to join another school in the Trust, Eden as a Deputy Headteacher. We would like to wish Ms Ferguson success in her new role and take this opportunity to thank her for being such a valuable member of our team.

Year 11 HT4 Mock Examination Results are now available to view on EduLink. As you will know we are approaching the start of the formal GCSE examination season. Further information has been shared with all parents of year 11 pupils regarding preparation, revision, support on offer at school and important examination protocols. All details regarding the important information can be found in this Newsletter, it is important that parents/carers read through this with their children. We are very proud of our year 11 pupils, who have proved themselves to be a mature, responsible and diligent year group who are committed to their studies and want to achieve highly.

Year 10 pupils have also made a good start to their GCSE studies. As you will know, Parents Evening has now changed to **Tuesday, the 22nd of April between 4pm and 7pm** and all parents should book appointments through Edulink. Formal examinations begin for pupils on **Monday 28th April** for pupils in Year 10. Please encourage your child to complete regular revision during the holidays so they are well prepared and can achieve well. We have written to year 10 parents separately to outline further details and our expectations.

Pupils in year 9 will also be taking End of Year Examinations for mathematics, science and English beginning on **Tuesday 6th May**. Parents can find revision lists and revision guidance here. We expect pupils to be revising every day for these examinations and following a revision timetable. These assessments are important in helping us make decisions about setting and options decisions for year 10 and 11.

Year 9 pupils have also made important decisions regarding their future options for key stage four. Those choices are currently being reviewed and parents and pupils will receive formal notification of their subject choices during the summer term. I would like to thank parents for their time and support in helping guide your children through these important decisions.

Please note that **Year 7 and 8 Mid-Year Reports** have now been published on EduLink. These contain important information regarding attendance, achievement and conduct for the academic year so far. Please review this with your child and contact the Head of Year if you require any further information.

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You may be aware that recent information has been shared by the Department of Education highlighting the link between excellent attendance and achievement. Good achievement leads to successful and rewarding careers and we expect all pupils to attend school every day so they can benefit from high quality teaching and learning. We thank you for your support in helping us to achieve this for your child.

As a reminder we return to school on **Tuesday, the 22nd of April 2025**. We expect all children to be in full school uniform including smart black shoes, not trainers. Please see here for more information about our expectations of uniform and footwear. Pupils are allowed to wear full PE kit on the days when they have PE only. However, pupils must not wear T-shirts or additional items under their kit and they must wear their school blazer at all times. We would also request that if your child has long hair, they tie it back during the school day. This is particularly helpful when children have lessons such as technology, art, science and PE as a safety measure.

You will also be aware that there is significant evidence to suggest that children's repeated use of mobile phones or online screen usage can have a detrimental impact on their health and well-being. As a reminder mobile phones are not allowed in school if your child is seen with a mobile phone anywhere on school premises or outside of the building it will be confiscated until a parent or carer can collect this from us.

We are holding a number of events for parents next term including our parents' forum, coffee morning and welcome events for new Year 7 parents. I will share details with you shortly, as you know we welcome the opportunity to meet with parents so that we can support your child in working closely together to provide an excellent education for your child. If you need to speak to staff at school please use the contact details on the website at www.pleckgate.com or email at info@pleckgate.com.

In the meantime, I wish you a peaceful holiday and thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming your child back to school at 8:20am on Tuesday 22nd of April 2025.

With very best wishes

Aishling McGinty

Headteacher