



Pleckgate High School
Pleckgate Road
Blackburn
BB1 8QA
Tel: 01254 249134
E: info@pleckgate.com

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope you and your families are well. To all our families that have recently celebrated Eid, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy Eid.

I thought it was a good time to write and update on a few things before we break up for half term on Friday 28th May.

Year 10 Examinations

Parents are already aware that year 10 students will be sitting GCSE mock examinations after half term. Please would you continue to support your child over half term with their revision and preparation for examinations. All students will already have a wide range of materials to support them with this.

Year 11 Assessments

These will soon be coming to an end, however the next few weeks will continue to provide an opportunity for students to sit any missing assessments and review their evidence base with staff. It is crucial that all year 11 students continue to attend school and work with staff in these final weeks of school. There will be a separate letter to parents explaining how these final few weeks in school will run.

KS3 End of Year assessments

Towards the end of the year, all our year 7,8 & 9 students will be sitting their end of year exams. This will give students and staff a great opportunity to evaluate how far learning has recovered and how we need to shape the curriculum for September, to make sure all children continue to make strong progress. With this in mind, I would ask that parents continue to take time to sit with your child and ask them about their learning, review their work and encourage them to read for pleasure at home. To support reading, you will be aware that every child has access to our online library through the Myon (accessed through their iPad) online reading platform, so there is no shortage of high-quality materials for your child to engage with.

Traffic & changes to the school site

As an oversubscribed school with over 1300 students on roll, traffic has continued to be an issue at the start and end of the school day. The most important thing for all of us is that our young people, staff and community are safe. With this in mind I want to ask parents again to please avoid travelling to school by car where possible. There is a school bus that students can access and many of our students are capable of walking to school. With the school and surrounding area often being congested, we are going to be trialling new measures to remove traffic altogether from the school site, to make sure that whilst on school grounds all students are safe from moving traffic. Please understand that with safety as our number one priority, any inconvenience caused is a small price to pay.

SLT structure

Pleckgate is part of a growing multi-academy trust that has recently seen two additional NW secondary schools join us. To support these additional schools, from June, I will be working closely with the other Headteachers to support capacity for improvement across all Trust secondary schools. I will continue to be the Headteacher at Pleckgate, but to support this wider work, Mrs McGinty, our current Senior Deputy Headteacher, will become Head of School until the end of next academic year. This change will ensure that there will always be a senior person with the authority of the Headteacher in school. Please rest assured that the vast majority of my time will be based at Pleckgate and by working alongside other local secondary schools, Pleckgate will continue to improve and to benefit from being able to share good practice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in working together to achieve the best for your children.

Kind regards

Mark Cocker

Headteacher

Pleckgate High School