

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have been delighted to welcome all our Year 7 children and their families to Barnwood Park.

All our students have now begun to settle into their new routines and we are seeing some excellent work and behaviour from our students.

Teaching and Learning

At the beginning of term, all teachers were engaged in whole-school training looking at how to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Our focus this year is on developing literacy – all lessons will include the study of keywords, exam command words and improving reading. As a school, we strongly believe that mastery of these elements will allow students to develop confidence in approaching GCSE exams, ultimately making greater progress.

In addition to this, we also believe that all children should have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular events. Almost all of our Year 11 students recently attended a world-class production of Macbeth at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford. The school has fully-funded this trip and has planned to offer similar opportunities for Years 7-10 over the course of the school year.

School facilities

A significant amount of work was carried out over the summer months to improve our school facilities. This included the installation of an outdoor gym, six outdoor basketball hoops, a forest school site and the replacement of flooring in six Maths classrooms, Music room and the general reception areas. Work has begun in painting classrooms and hallways which will continue over the half-term holidays.

I am happy to confirm that surveyors have visited the school and stated that the school building does not contain the RAAC concrete which was the cause for concern at the start of the school year.



Uniform and equipment

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in ensuring that children arrive on time for school and are dressed in the correct uniform with their school equipment. The impact these small things have on the start to your child's day is significant – we want all our children to thrive and be happy at school. Being prepared really does help your child to focus and learn.

The changes to the new school uniform (grey trousers/grey pleated skirt) have been adopted by lots of students, as well as the new Year 7 children. Please be reassured there is *no* requirement for students in Years 8-11 to wear grey. We are phasing in the change over the next 5 years with each new year 7 cohort.

All students are expected to wear black shoes; trainers are for PE lessons only. This is for all year groups.

Headteacher: Mrs. Karen Clinton, BA (Hons.), MA, MSc, NPQH, PGCE, CMgr MCFE

Barnwood Park School St Lawrence Road Barnwood Gloucester GL4 3QU

Tel: 01452 530389 Email: admin@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk Website: www.barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk



Community

The school Open Evening will take place on Thursday 5th October. Many students have agreed to help by acting as school tour guides or working in subject areas. We are very lucky to have so many students who are rightly proud of their school.

Our Year 7 students have worked incredibly hard this week to promote their cake sale for the Macmillan Cancer charity – thank you to all parents and carers for their support.

Finally, Friday 6th October is an INSET day following the Open Evening on Thursday. Students are **not** expected to be in school as all staff will be completing Performance Management Reviews.

Kind regards,
Karen Clinton
Headteacher

New Staff

Jess Rhodes	Maths
Michael Bevan	PE
Lena Thomas	Geography
Tanya Kincaid	MFL
Matthew Day	PE
Olivia Neale	Maths
Louise Magovern	Attendance
Chebly Saysell	LSA
India Wilson	LSA
Taleah Carter	LSA
Dimitri Del Valle	Business, French, PE
Justine Cambridge	DT Technician
Matthew Matheou	Maths
Andrew Taggart	Business, Maths
Luci Lai	Art & Textiles
Hannah Allen	DSL
Lucy Moule	EWO
Alex Chilman	IT Technician
Archie Evans	IT Technician
Maria Flores	MFL

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