



12 December 2023

## End of term letter

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for continuing to work with school in a positive and supportive manner. This term has been very busy and hopefully you have enjoyed reading about our students' work and achievements in the 'Parent Weekly' publication. As you know, Class Charts remains our main tool to communicate between school and home. Last term I shared our Parent Communication Policy which I trust is supporting open and constructive conversations between home and school. Thank you also for your engagement with the Transport Survey which will assist in our focus for improvements.

The last day of this term is Wednesday 20 December with an end time of 1.30 pm. for students following the lunch period and tutor time Christmas House quiz. DW school buses will be available at 1.30 pm. If the earlier finish creates significant difficulties for parents and carers, students can remain on site in the school library, where they will be supervised through to the end of the normal school day at 3.00 pm. Please note that DW school buses will not be operating at this time. Students requiring transport home at this time will need to access public transport buses or arrange for parents or carers to collect them.

Thank you for donating to our recent annual collection for local food banks. Once again, the response has been excellent and typical of the genuine kindness and compassion shown by our community. Wednesday 20 December will be a Children in Need charity fundraising non-uniform day. Students are encouraged to donate £1.00 to the charity.

### Absence from school and the impact on achievement

If your child is persistently absent from school this will directly impact on their learning and progress. As a reminder, the government states that an attendance **below 90%** categorises your child as being persistently absent from school. Students who are persistently absent from school typically achieve 1 grade less in their GCSE qualifications than those with good or better attendance. Congratulations to all students whose attendance continues to be excellent. All students should aim to achieve 100% attendance from the beginning of term 3 in January 2024.

Attendance rating	Number of school days in term 1&2	Days absent	% Present
Excellent	74 (4 September – 20 December)	3 days absent	96%
Satisfactory	74 (4 September – 20 December)	6 days absent	92%
Concerning	74 (4 September – 20 December)	8 days absent	89%

### **Attitudes to learning, uniform and good behaviour**

On our return, please support school by ensuring your child gets the 'basics' right in school. The 'basics' at Tupton Hall School include wearing school uniform, bringing a bag, equipment and a positive attitude to school each day. As a reminder, leggings and trainers are not acceptable school uniform. We have replacement uniform for students who need help with meeting our uniform expectations, however where students borrow items such as ties parents/carers will be informed through Class Charts and if these are not returned at the end of the day charges will be applied to Parent Pay. Please continue to check Class Charts regularly to track your child's engagement with school. We know that when our students try their very best, follow the rules and get involved in school life they are at their happiest, make excellent progress in their learning, and achieve great things.

All students return to school on **Monday 8 January 2024**. As a reminder, false nails and facial piercings are not accepted in school and should be removed for school if they have been in place over the festive period.

Wishing you a very happy and safe festive break.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Knowles', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Andrew J Knowles  
Headteacher