Bradley Stoke Community School

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BSCS/24-036

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of Term 1, it feels only appropriate to congratulate the newest members of the Bradley Stoke Community School family on making such an excellent start to Secondary School life. They have been a pleasure to get to know and shown great resilience in navigating new buildings and new routines so quickly – not to mention surviving the torrential rain at MoJo Active last week! I'm sure you will join me in thanking the Year 7 Tutor team who have worked so hard to enable them to settle in and Miss Denton and Miss Antigua for their support throughout.

We understand the transition to secondary school will affect all students differently, and how many additional items there are for students to remember each day to ensure they are always equipped. Well done to the vast majority who have risen to this challenge. Please remember to keep locker keys somewhere safe over the forthcoming holiday to enable students to Be Ready from the first day of Term 2! Do get in touch if there should be a locker key mishap because we are always able to help.

In looking ahead to next term, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank parents and carers for ensuring Year 7 have been in correct uniform and fully equipped for learning every day. It also felt timely to remind you of our expectations regarding 'Being Ready' – both with uniform and equipment, particularly as school holidays are times when school supplies shopping takes place. Our expectations are laid out on our website here:
Bradley Stoke Community School - Secondary Uniform, Essential Equipment and General Information (bradleystokecs.org.uk)

We fully understand the financial difficulties many families are facing; as a reminder, if you require any support with uniform and equipment you will be able to find details of how to access support at the link above.

One of the most exciting parts of moving to secondary school is developing new friendships and often a first mobile phone of some description. This inevitably brings with it access and exposure to social media like never before. It is important that parents are aware of children's use of online resources such as WhatsApp, Snapchat and TikTok. As many of you will be aware, discussions between groups of children on these platforms can sadly turn negative and can damage relationships. We have, unfortunately, had instances where this has then come into school, affecting behaviour, learning and ultimately academic achievement. There are many worrying instances across the country of how this can also affect a child's mental health, sometimes creating anxiety and fear, and we are here to try to support students and families navigate this online world. Organisations such as KOOTH can give help and advice about use of smart phones and we recently shared with you some opportunities to learn more.

We are also delighted to be able to share the fact that the Year 7 toilet refurbishment project is now complete, meaning that Year 7 will have their own toilets for use from the beginning of Term 2. More details will be shared in tutor time.

As ever, if you have any queries, please contact your child's Tutor or Head of Year. Thank you for your support which enables BSCS to be the vibrant learning community we all know and love. I'd like to wish you a peaceful half term break.

Kind regards,

Mrs Andrea William-Jones
Assistant Headteacher: Behaviour and Character Education