



Ysgol Uwchradd
CASTELL ALUN
High School

Hope, Flintshire LL12 9PY
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Head/Pennaeth: Graham Hughes B.Sc., N.P.Q.H.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

July 2015

As we approach the end of this academic year, I write to advise you on a number of issues.

I would like to inform you that Miss L. Cronin will be taking over as the new Student Development Manager for Year 8 from September. I have enjoyed working with the Year group and am sure they will make good progress as they continue through the school; I wish them all every success.

The school uniform list (overleaf) will assist you in purchasing the appropriate items. Please note the sections concerning footwear, jewellery, hairstyles (including 'number 1' styles) and make-up, as well as the clothing requirements. I would also remind you that should you wish to purchase a school skirt for your daughter, please be aware that many 'fashion' skirts are unsuitable as they are very short in length and do not meet the school uniform requirements (approximately knee length). Ties are also available from the school.

I would remind you that the regulation school sweater is available from our uniform supplier and that **all students are expected to purchase this item when renewing their existing sweater**. We are now holding a stock of sweaters in school and they are available to purchase from Mrs. Southwell. Students are expected to wear plain black tailored trousers which are not skin tight or jeans/canvas material.

Also this year as part of a Flintshire Nightingale House initiative we are joining a 'Uniform Exchange' scheme. Our students can donate any unwanted or unused school uniform by either dropping it off in school or at any Nightingale House Hospice shop. This can then be sold on to generate much needed funds for Nightingale House. Students will be given details of how items can be donated in the coming weeks.

Following discussions with staff and students, our school day will look slightly different next year. There will be five one hour lessons with a twenty five minute registration/tutorial period to start each day. A 15 minute break will be taken at 10.15am and lunchtime will run from 12.30 – 1.15pm. The start and finish times remain the same at 8.50am and 3.15pm respectively.

I would remind you that students should not phone or text home directly to report medical issues and would ask you to come into reception to collect your child if taking them off the premises. This will assist us in monitoring students' illness and their whereabouts.

I am pleased to inform you that we raised a substantial amount to support our chosen charity last term. Many fundraising activities were held and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Please note the following dates for the beginning of the September term:-

Tuesday 1st September, 2015 – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 1st September, 2015 – Year 12 enrolment
Wednesday 2nd September, 2015 – School begins for all Students in Years 7 – 13
Friday 23rd October, 2015 – Friday 30th October, 2015 - Half term
Friday 18th December, 2015 – Monday 4th January, 2015 – Christmas holiday
Monday 4th January, 2015 – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 5th January, 2015 – School begins for all students Years 7 – 13

Next week, we look forward to our activity week including Sports Day on Thursday 16th. On Monday 13th July we have our year trip to Chester Zoo, on Tuesday a sports activities day and on Wednesday an inter form activity morning and Eisteddfod in the afternoon. Students are allowed to wear appropriate non-uniform from Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th July. However, they are expected to wear school uniform on Thursday 16th July and Friday 17th July (our last day this term).

I hope this information is helpful to you. Have an enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely

Miss J. K. Jones

Student Development Manager – Year Seven

