

## Headteacher Bulletin 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

As we approach the final week of this half term, may I thank the students for their conduct and mature approach to school during the wet and cold weather, dark mornings/nights, and seasonal colds and flu. Students have behaved well and shown a positive attitude to their learning. Thank you.

### **Year 11 Next Steps and Mock Results**

Year 11 students should have brought home their mock results on Thursday, which I hope they have shared with parents. Included in the results pack was information for each subject identifying which topics need to be the focus of revision. Please use these sheets to support your revision over the next few months. The next step for Year 11 includes MyTutor and Period 6 classes continuing, form groups will be changed to reflect the needs of the students following the mock results.

### **Year 9**

Thank you to all parents and students who attended the Parents Evening on Thursday. I hope you found the evening useful and informative as to the academic progress of your child. Next week, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February, we are holding an Options Evening, and year 9 Parents are invited to come along and discuss with staff potential career paths for your child. Following this evening, students should be in a position to make their final choices of subjects they wish to study in Year 10.

### **Review of phone pouches**

An initiative we implemented this year has been the introduction of phone pouches. Recently we have reviewed the impact and would like to share the feedback with you:

1. Students - after some reluctance to lock their phones away, students have accepted the new arrangements and are understanding of why the pouches were introduced. This is by no means a unanimous opinion but the vast majority.
2. The data is showing that the incidences of bullying on social media being reported has significantly reduced.
3. Use of phones by students during lesson time is no longer an issue and students are focussed and learning.

Parents will have an opportunity to express their views at the next Parent Forum

### **Join the BBFC Youth Panel**

We have an amazing opportunity for students who are excited about film and the opportunity to meet like-minded others from across the UK. If you are passionate about movies and youth focused social issues and enjoy debating, please apply now. If chosen, you will get to watch films together, learn more about age ratings and have the chance to share your views on content with the BBC. Plus, you will have exclusive opportunities to represent the BBFC on social media platforms and media outlets, and

attend exciting BBFC events. You can apply for this exciting opportunity here: [BBFC Teens Youth Panel | BBFC](#)

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

Children's Mental Health Week begins next week. The Mental Health First Aiders, Mental Health Ambassadors and staff have been planning some exciting activities to celebrate this year's theme, "This Is Our Place." Parents can support Children's Mental Health Week by regularly talking to their child and discussing not only their concerns, but also what is going well.

### **Half Term holiday**

School will finish at the end of the day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3:10pm. It will be a normal school day and students should attend in full school uniform. It will also be double CORE points and we have the 'Spread the Love' campaign - please see attached poster. Students return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, when we will again, as we do at the start of each half term, be reminding students of our high expectations and standards with 'Our Arena Way'.

Kind regards  
Mr Mann