

December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a fantastic half term at The Coleshill School. It has been a privilege to witness the incredible achievements of our students, who have worked hard, shown kindness, and taken responsibility – truly embodying our core school values.

We are delighted to share that this term, our students have earned a record breaking **165,000 SPIRIT points** – the most ever awarded in a single term. This achievement is testament to their hard work, effort, and commitment to excellence. Across all year groups, students have consistently demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and compassion, whether through their academic studies, extracurricular activities, or their daily contributions to our school community.

One of the highlights of the term has been the dedication and talent displayed in preparation for our end-of-term show, *Mary Poppins*, which is taking place this week. Our students and staff have worked tirelessly to bring this production to life, and I encourage as many parents and carers as possible to attend what promises to be a magical performance. It is a wonderful celebration of creativity and collaboration, and we are incredibly proud of everyone involved.

We also want to acknowledge the ways in which students have embraced our school values. From taking responsibility by supporting our younger students through mentoring schemes to showing kindness by participating in fundraising activities and charitable events, their actions inspire us daily. Academic effort has also shone through, with students setting high standards for themselves and demonstrating resilience in their learning.

As we look forward to the holidays, we encourage all families to enjoy a well-earned rest and to celebrate the successes of the term together. We ask that all parents and carers take note of the additional notices and information below in advance of the new term beginning in January.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At The Coleshill School, we know that excellent attendance and punctuality are key to success. A missed school day is a missed opportunity to learn, and students who attend school regularly are shown to achieve much better outcomes than those who do not.

ABSENCE

Students are required to attend school for 190 days per year, and the government advises that attendance should be at least 95%. Missing just 10 days of school equates to 50 lessons lost, which can have a significant impact on learning. Research shows that students who miss 20 days of school often achieve one whole grade lower in their exams compared to those with good attendance. We call on you to support us in looking at your child's attendance and consider the impact of any days off. Moving forwards please encourage your child to attend school and reiterate the importance of good attendance.

APPOINTMENTS

Therefore, whenever possible, appointments should be made outside of school hours, although we do understand that sometimes this is unavoidable. Please provide evidence of the appointment in advance so we can update our records and let staff know who will be collecting your child.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Please remember that holidays during term time will not be authorised, as they can have a real impact on your child's education. Taking time out of school for a holiday can result in significant missed learning, so we ask you to avoid booking holidays during term time.

Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility. >

PUNCTUALITY

Poor punctuality can have a big impact on learning. Arriving just 5 minutes late every day adds up to 3 days of learning lost per year. Being 15 minutes late daily amounts to 10 days of lost learning. Students who arrive late also miss key messages and important information at the start of the day, which helps them stay organised and ready to learn.

At The Coleshill School, we are committed to supporting students to improve poor attendance. If a pattern of absence begins to develop, or your child's attendance falls below 92%, we will be contacting you to identify barriers to attendance and help to resolve this.

iPads

To ensure that your child has their iPad and can use it in school to support their learning and progress, we kindly ask you to review the following important points:

1. Accessories

Each student was issued an iPad, a charger, and an Apple pencil. If your child has misplaced their charger or pencil, it is your responsibility to source replacements through relevant retailers.

2. Care and Maintenance

iPads must remain in the protective case at all times. Removing the iPad from its case voids the insurance. Any damaged iPads should be handed to your child's form tutor as soon as possible for processing and repair. Please note that persistently smashed or deliberately damaged iPads will result in a charge to parents to cover the cost of repairs or replacement.

3. Platform Log-In Information

- **ClassCharts:** Students need their unique access code and date of birth to log in. If they have lost their access code, they can request a new one from their form tutor. We encourage students to record their access codes in the Notes app on their iPad.
- **Seneca, Showbie, and Bedrock:** Students should log in using the Microsoft button and their school email address and password.

Detentions

When a student is issued a detention, this will either be a lunch time detention or a class teacher detention. If a student doesn't attend their lunch time detention, but they have been in school, then this is escalated to an after-school detention. Failure to attend the resulting after school detention will result in further sanctions within school. You can support the school by ensuring that you check and monitor ClassCharts and also encourage your child to do the same. This ensures that they are aware of when their detentions are and are encouraged to attend to prevent escalation. Thank you for your support with this.

Year 11

It has been another strong term for our GCSE students. We want to give specific praise to the students and their conduct during the winter mock examination series. These mocks are vital in ensuring students close the gaps in their learning and embed the key skills needed to be successful in their upcoming exams. The final terms of Year 11 can be both an exciting and stressful time for students, as they face their final exams and decisions about their future.



"Work Hard," "Be Kind," and "Take Responsibility" are the guiding values that shape our school culture and the foundation upon which we build a supportive and enriching educational experience for all our GCSE students.

With this being the final hurdle before their GCSE exams we need to be mindful of the opportunities available to be successful but also the pressures that come with it. We want all students to be successful in all their subjects. This will only happen through hard work both in school and at home, listening to their teachers and being fully prepared for school every single day.

Introduction of after-school 'Revision Hub' Sessions (3.15pm – 4.00pm)

In order to fully support our students and give them the best possible chance of success in their exams and their future, we are introducing after school revision for students.

IT IS AN EXPECTATION OF THE SCHOOL THAT ALL STUDENTS TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THESE 'REVISION HUB' SESSIONS.

If students have a valid reason why they cannot attend a 'Revision Hub', they can speak to their Head of Year. Please discuss with your child the sessions and support their achievement this year by stressing the importance of their engagement and attendance, just as we will in school. All our teaching staff are dedicated and committed to doing all we can to ensure students achieve the best results possible next summer.

Year 11 Revision Calendar Week A

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
After-School 3:15 – 4pm	After-School 3:15 – 4pm	After-School 3:15 – 4pm
Maths W Block	English C Block	Science A Block

Year 11 Revision Calendar Week B

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
After-School 3:15 – 4pm	After-School 3:15 – 4pm	After-School 3:15 – 4pm
Geography A Block [A14]	Sport B Block [B8]	History A Block [A7]
Engineering E Block [E1]	Computing B Block [B5]	Art E Block [E7]
Business Studies W Block [W12]	Languages B Block [B2]	DT E Block [E1]

Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility. >

Form time changes – (8:45-9:05)

To continue support students in achieving the best possible outcomes in Maths and English, students will have three dedicated 'mini bursts' of English/Maths revision per week, led by Subject experts, in Form Time. Form Groups, for the next 5-week term, will change and students will be in either an English or Maths focussed tutor. Data from mock examinations has been used to inform which subject students will benefit the most from additional support.

Science Set Changes

Following the Autumn mock series, changes to our timetabled curriculum with science will take place. There have been some changes to the sets in Y11. The purpose of this is to ensure the best climate across all groups. P2/P3 and Q2/Q3 are all taught the same content to the same level by experienced members of staff. The target grades of the students is consistent across these groups.

Independent Revision

The school has invested in a range of revision material and resources that your child should already have access to and use frequently. It is crucial during this last part of secondary education that your child is revising independently outside of the classroom and in addition to the intervention offered to them. Students have login details for a range of online platforms on their school provided iPad, such as **Seneca**. All of these online platforms are designed to help students revise independently, linking each skill to the GCSE syllabus. Furthermore, staff provide a wealth of revision resources on **Showbie**. If you or your child require help in accessing these, please contact your child's subject teachers.

Sparx Maths

We are pleased to inform parents/carers that the school has invested in Sparx Maths, with your child having access to this platform from January. Sparx Maths creates an hour's worth of perfectly tailored practice homework for each student each week driven by our school's scheme of learning. The practice is challenging, to ensure students need to think and, crucially, achievable so that students can be successful. It is proven to improve outcomes, so we are looking forward to providing you with more details in January.

We fully appreciate that for students GCSEs are a challenge and school is here to support them to be resilient. As teachers, we are aware that the build up to exams can be stressful and we will continue to adapt and reflect on what we feel will secure the positive GCSE outcomes we know this year group is capable of. Every child will have a part to play, and every child deserves to be successful. To this end please, please continue to encourage your child at every opportunity to engage with in-school intervention sessions, complete home-learning and remember – as discussed in the parental information meeting - play your part in your child's revision journey!

Year 11 Parents Seminars

In order to further support parents in this vital year, the school has partnered with Elevate Education to deliver a range of online parent workshops, running in conjunction with sessions that will be held in school for pupils.

The seminars are packed full of easy-to implement practical strategies and advice. Elevate are proud to say over 15,000 parents used this service last year. The school will email parents information on how they can book onto these seminars; look out for invites.

The next seminar is Tuesday 17th December, 6:00pm: How To Help Your Child Alleviate Stress

[Click here to register for free](#)

work hard, be kind, take responsibility. /

Key Dates

Year 11 Face-to-face Parents Evening	Thursday 20 th March 2025
Year 11 Report Issued	W/C 17 th March 2025
Year 11 Mock Examination Window 2	W/C 24 th February 2025
GCSE Examinations Begin	6 th May 2025 – 27 th June 2025
GCSE Results Day 2025	21 st August 2025
Year 11 Prom	4 th July 2025

A reminder that Prom is scheduled to take place at the Heart of England Conference Centre on the 4th July 2025 - 7pm-11:30pm.

Beginning in January, students will have the opportunity to earn 'prom points' as rewards, with the top earners rewarded with discounted prom tickets.

Year 11 Team

Assistant Headteacher & Senior Link for Year 11	Mr J Simmons	simmons.j2@thecoleshillschool.org
Head of Year 11	Mrs M O'Neill	oneill.m@thecoleshillschool.org
Year Leader	Mr Toluwase	toluwase.s@thecoleshillschool.org
Progress Leader	Mrs L Cooper	lcooper@thecoleshillschool.org

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a lovely Christmas break and a happy, safe New Year.

Students are expected back to school for standing assembly at 8:40am on Tuesday 7th January, which is a Week B.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

R Brindley

Miss R Brindley
Head of School

Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility. >