



Great Marlow School

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Dear Parent/ Carer

As the first half term draws to a close, I would like to thank you for your continued support at home. We have been incredibly impressed with the levels of *readiness, resilience, respect and resourcefulness* demonstrated by the Year 8 cohort during their first half term.

I wanted to take the opportunity to share some key reminders with you to ensure that this continues as we look forward to the second Autumn half term (*WB: Monday 30th October*).

Planner Signing:

A key part of a successful home-school partnership is the weekly planner signing checks, that take place on a Monday morning during tutor time.

Please continue to support us by signing and dating your child's planner on the notes section of each week, ready for their form tutor to sign and check. We recommend that reading and checking your child's planner, along with a conversation about homework and their learning in school, is part of your weekly routine at home at the weekend.

Equipment and Readiness Checks:

In addition to planner signing, readiness and equipment checks also take place during form time.

Please can you check over your child's equipment over the half term break and replace any missing equipment. A reminder of our expectations of the equipment list which student need to bring with them to school for each day are below:

1. Pencil case
2. At least x 2 black or blue pens
3. HB pencil
4. Green pen
5. Glue stick
6. Scissors
7. Colouring pencils
8. Highlighter
9. Maths set- including calculator, compass and protractor.

Uniform:

As we approach the colder weather, a reminder that the blazer is a compulsory part of your son or daughter's uniform. Plain black "V" neck jumpers are optional, although strongly advised in the cold weather and do not substitute the GMS blazer. In addition, coats are to be worn on top of their blazer.

The only items of jewellery acceptable are: a small plain single stud in each ear, a plain simple ring (both to be removed for PE) or a watch (to be removed for PE and DT lessons). Students are responsible for the security of their own jewellery. No hoop earrings please.

Extracurricular and sports:

It has been wonderful to see the **readiness** for participation in wider school life, demonstrated by such a large proportion of the cohort. I would like to thank you as their parents and carers for your continued encouragement and support of your son or daughter's participation in extracurricular and sports clubs at the school.

A reminder that this information is shared with students during Friday tutor time, ready for the following week. You can also access digital copies of the bulletins online on the website:

https://www.gms.bucks.sch.uk/?page_id=19525

Homework Club:

Homework is a vital part of the curriculum. There is a clear link between the completion of homework and achievement and it is an integral part of the courses your child studies.

Students record their homework in their planner but tasks are also uploaded onto Teams. We have encouraged all students to show you their homework on their Teams pages, to support with the home-school partnership. I would just like to take this opportunity to remind you about our school homework club, which is supervised by staff in the library from 3-4pm Monday-Thursday.

Wishing you and your families a pleasant half term break. We look forward to welcoming our wonderful year group back to school when term resumes on **Monday 30th October- Week 2.**

Yours faithfully

Mrs Pendlebury
Director of Learning Year 8