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24th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

The Design and Technology department would like to thank you for your support with our Year 8 students last year.

When deciding how successful the department has been in a year, a big indicator is how many students have taken their wonderful creations home. This has been in abundance this year with Year 8 (despite disruptions) so we hope that you have seen a Tangram puzzle, an Automaton, a Wall hanging, a packaged air freshener, or some London based packaging (dependent upon the D&T disciplines studied).

As we hope you are aware, we are currently in the process of allowing students to specialise in two areas of technology for Year 9. Over the next academic year your child will complete a number of tasks/projects/exercises which will build their skill levels and their understanding of the subject.

Whichever subject your child studies they will be using a selection from our variety of specialist materials such as wood, cards, metal, acrylic, fabrics as well as decorative materials, and the tasting of new and different food products throughout the faculty.

The actual cost of these materials if purchased individually can amount to £30-£40 per student for the two remaining years of KS3, and this estimate obviously continues to rise dramatically in the current climate. Food ingredients aside it would not be practical to ask students to bring in these other materials themselves, as we would have problems with quality, quantity and suitability.

We offer a range of appropriate materials that are needed for the successful completion of high-quality products, but we are unable to do this without the support of parents and carers.

We ask each Year 8/9 student to make a contribution of £20.00 to cover some of the costs towards the materials required to deliver the exciting projects for Year8 and Year 9 combined. On completion of their work, students will be able to take home and keep the projects to show to family and friends, and to cherish for years to come. This is a reminder letter for you, if you did not make a contribution in Year 8, we would be very grateful if you could support the students and the technology faculty so that we can continue to deliver the best possible Design and Technology experience.

To make payments please log on to Wisepay using your username and password. If you do not have a Wisepay account please email the finance office, finance@gms.bucks.sch.uk, who will be happy to assist.

Yours faithfully

Mr N Taylor Head of Design and Technology