



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break. There are a few brief updates I would like to give you at the start of the term. We have had a successful start, beginning with our first whole school photograph for 6 years! The photography company was very impressed with the responsible way that our pupils behaved and you will be able to view and then purchase the outcome in a few weeks time.

We welcome some new (or new-ish) staff to the school this term. Mrs Cardell has rejoined us to teach in the Science Faculty and we are very grateful to her for coming out of retirement to do so. Mr Chan has joined the Mathematics and Computing Faculty and Mrs Hardy has joined the Health Faculty, teaching Citizenship, Government & Politics and Life Skills. I am very pleased to have such experienced and well-trained staff join us.

I need to alert you that the NEU have announced two further strike days: 27th April and 2nd May. I hope to be able to confirm with you by the end of the week or early next week the impact of this on lessons at Bishop's. As always, I will try to minimise disruption but must also consider the health and safety of pupils with a large number of staff likely to be absent. It is likely that school will be closed to a number of year groups but if possible we will aim to remain open to those preparing for exams.

As the summer approaches it is also timely to remind parents/carers that the school cannot authorise absences for holidays during term time. The Department for Education guidance on this is very clear. Whilst we appreciate that many families have had to rearrange holiday plans due to the pandemic, we are not able to authorise absences for holidays or to visit relatives abroad unless there are exceptional personal circumstances. Any absence from school is disruptive to your child's learning and should be avoided if at all possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Wood
Headteacher

"Pupils flourish and support each other to succeed"

