



15 July 2022

Dear families

Hot Weather

As you will be aware, we are expecting high temperatures in the South East on Monday and Tuesday. We have been closely monitoring the weather forecast and making adjustments to our plans for our hugely anticipated Curriculum Enhancement Week (CEW) which I know the students are looking forward to.

The Department for Education (DfE) have been very clear that schools should remain open and West Sussex County Council have stated they are also not advising to close but that we should take necessary steps to make sure children feel safe and comfortable.

In response to this advice we have made the following adjustments:

- **Year 9 sports day** is due to take place on Monday. They will now be split into a number of indoor areas and participate in light activities that will allow for more breaks and minimal exertion. This will only be for part of the day. The other half of their day will be working on a great English project based around sports journalism. It is likely we will follow the same plan on Tuesday for **year 8 sports day** but will review that on Monday morning.
- **Year 8** graduation celebration due to take place on Tuesday, has been postponed and will be replaced by the same session run by our English team on sports journalism.
- **Year 7 trip** to Seaford has already been changed to Friston Forest where there is plenty of shade. Students will be travelling in air conditioned coaches. We are taking additional water with us so that students can fill up their water bottles to stay hydrated. Students will always be accompanied by a member of staff.

In addition to this, we are attempting to mitigate the high temperatures for all students by:

- Ventilating areas of the school and using fans in classrooms where possible
- Moving lessons to classrooms with cooler temperatures where possible
- Reminding everyone to stay hydrated, drinking regularly
- When outside at break time, encouraging students to use the shaded areas around the school
- Adjusting activities so that we avoid students being in direct sun for any length of time
- Lowering blinds in the evening to try to keep classrooms cooler
- Ensuring staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke and first aid providers know how to treat suspected cases.

Although we have allowed students to wear PE kit this week and students will be in their own clothes Monday to Wednesday, recent advice suggests that they may actually feel more comfortable in long sleeve, light coloured clothing.

Finally, if you could please help us by

- Sending your child in with some sun cream protection
- Encourage them to bring in a hat or cap to wear outside
- Ensuring they have their own water bottle and fill this up every break and at the end of the day for their journey home, particularly as this is when temperatures are likely to be at their peak.

The weather is expected to change on Wednesday, which at the moment has some showers predicted for later in the afternoon, coupled with lower temperatures. However, we also know how unpredictable the weather can be so we will continue to review the situation and update you if there are any further changes.

We are looking forward to a really enjoyable and fulfilling CEW, with many more sessions planned such as STEM activities, developing students understanding of science, technology, engineering and maths through interactive and practical sessions and a **meet the professionals afternoon** where we have over 30 professionals coming in from a variety of different industries supporting our Futures curriculum.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J Meloni'.

Ms Jo Meloni
Headteacher