

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## Letter from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We arrive at the end of a long but successful half-term and a brilliant year at Toot Hill. I am so proud of all our students for the way they have conducted themselves throughout this academic year. They exemplify our core values of belonging, excellence and opportunity every single day.

### Celebration Evenings

A huge thank you to all those involved in the recent Celebration Evenings, but a special thank you goes to our fantastic award winners and the student performers. The evenings represented a new addition to our calendar this year and replaced the traditional Achievement Evening that was last held in October 2022. The evenings were a huge success and offered a more intimate celebration of the successes of our students across Years 7 to 10. We will be certainly seeing them return next academic year.

### New School Build

In September, we will see the Department of Education select two contractors to bid for opportunity to build our new school. The new build is expected to complete and ready to move into for September 2030. The Department for Education will deal with all planning communication to the local community, and this will start next academic year.

### Summer Uniform

This unusually hot summer meant that out of care and respect for our students, we have allowed them to wear PE kit to school. We fully expect to return to a full school uniform in September, and we will be sending communication to you over the summer to clarify our uniform expectations as families often purchase items across the break.

### Bus Pass Applications

If your child uses a bus to get to school, please ensure you have arrangements in place for September. All necessary information and links can be found using this link:

[School Bus Information Link](#)

### Earrings

A brief reminder that students looking to have their ears pierced in the holidays should do this at the start of the break to enable healing before a return to school in September.

## **A Reminder of the Phased Start to 2025-26**

To support a great start for the new Year 7 students and Year 11 in such an important year for them, only these year groups will be in school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September. All other year groups, including Years 12 and 13, will start on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

## **Nut-free School**

We are proud to be a nut-free school to protect both students and staff. We have seen a recent increase in the food containing nuts being brought into school by students. Please can I ask for your vigilance in this matter as the most serious risk to allergic children and staff comes from nuts, which can cause severe, life-threatening 'anaphylactic' reactions within seconds.

Our "Nut-Free Policy" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Hummus or houmous as it contains tahini which is made from sesame
- Pesto which contains nuts
- Cakes made with nuts
- Pastries covered in almonds – for example almond croissants
- Any home-cooked meals for packed lunches that are made from nuts

What types of food are nuts?

- Almonds
- Cashew nuts
- Hazelnuts
- Pistachios
- Walnuts
- Brazil nuts
- Nut oils
- Peanuts

Finally, I would like to thank you for your unwavering support over the past year. By working as a team, we ensure our students enjoyed success and happiness at our school. I wish you a lovely summer break with your family.

Yours sincerely



**Dr C Eardley**  
**Head Teacher**