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Dear Parents

Summer Term News:

Introducing your Heads of School

This term we have introduced a new senior leadership structure to the school. Instead of Deputy Heads, we now have a Head of School for each Key Stage. Ms Lyall is the Head of Sixth Form, Mr Little is the Head of School for KS4 and Ms MacTavish, who joined us this term, is the Head of School for KS3.

The job of the Head of School is to make sure that every child has a challenging and exciting curriculum suited to their needs, that we are tracking their progress well and that our support systems are all working. They have complete oversight of the learning experience of every child in their Key Stage, working closely with all the departments and year teams.

All the other key people who support your child will remain the same, working with the form tutors and teaching staff:

	Head of School	Assistant Head	Head of Year	Director of Studies
Year 7	Leila MacTavish	Rachel Landon	Nick Worlock	Peter Gillman
Year 8		Paul Gilbert	Martina Nwohia	Miranda Clayton
Year 9		Jane Oakley	Caroline Curran	Mark Wignall
Year 10	Matt Little	Sara Stafford	Alice McFarlane	Patricia Cray
Year 11		Matt Little	Louise Furgason	Mark West
Year 12	Aimee Lyall	Director of Studies: Ro Sylvester		
Year 13		Director of Studies: Tracy O'Connor		

Head of Year: They are mainly responsible for attendance, behaviour, personal or well-being issues and general pastoral care.

Director of Studies: They are mainly responsible for academic progress, homework and issues related to learning in lessons.

Assistant Head: This a senior leader in charge of each year group from Y7-11. They support the work of the Head of Year and Director of Studies on a daily basis, staying with the same students as they move up through the school, looking at all curriculum and pastoral issues that affect their year group.

Hopefully, the roles of all the different people will become clearer as your child moves up through the school. You can contact any member of staff directly by email. The email format is the same for all staff e.g. Matt Little is mlittle@highburygrove.islington.sch.uk

School Gateway and Lunchtimes.

We are moving toward being a fully cashless school with the expansion of our online School Gateway portal. This is where you pay for trips and school meals. From half-term, at the beginning of June, we will have phased out all of the cash-loaders for the swipe card system. All school meals will need to be paid for through the online system. This means you do not need to give your child any cash. You can also monitor how much they are spending from the money you load onto the system. This will make life easier for you and for the school. It will also mean fewer children spending money on sweets, crisps and sugary drinks on their way to and from school, instead of eating a healthy meal at lunchtime. The website is www.schoolgateway.com

Please contact our acting Business Manager Ms Rous if you have any questions:
crous@highburygrove.islington.sch.uk

As I explained to students this week, we are trying to create a dining room environment where students all sit down to eat, enjoying each other's company and eating properly. We have removed the option for students to eat outside mainly to control litter. We are also asking students to sit down at a table with their friends to eat any food that they buy or bring into school. The queues are going down quickly and with two sittings, we do not run out of food at any time. I would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to embrace these changes as we move away from the fast-food, picnic-style eating that dominated lunchtimes before. It is already making the dining room experience much more pleasant for everyone.

Music Tuition Survey

All parents of students who currently have individual instrumental tuition have been sent a letter with a survey regarding various options for music tuition from September. We need to receive a response from every family concerned so please keep your replies coming in.

They can be sent in by post, by hand or by email to Jake Bernard, Music Administrator:
jbernard@highburygrove.islington.sch.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to meeting many of you at school events over the next few weeks.

Regards

Tom Sherrington
Headteacher