

Headteacher:
Mrs E Davies BA (Hons.) NPQH



WESTWARD HO
GRIMSBY DN34 5AH
T: 01472 310015
F: 01472 310016

E: office@hereford.tlfe.org
www.herefordtechnologyschool.co.uk

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Dear Parents

As I write, our Year 11 are in the final preparation for their forthcoming GCSE's. I look forward to celebrating with them in August. Remember Year 11, a little time sacrificed now will bring you greater rewards, and celebrations in the summer!

School Day

We are proposing to alter the school day from September 2010. The proposed times are listed below. A parents' meeting to discuss these proposals will be held in the hall on Tuesday, 18th May 2010 starting at 6.30pm and ending at 7:15pm. This is an open meeting for you to attend if you wish.

Before 8:30	Breakfast club
8:30 – 8:50	Tutor Period and Assembly
8:50 – 9:50	Period 1
9:50 – 10:50	Period 2
10:50 – 11:10	Break. Hot and cold food available.
11:10 – 12:10	Period 3
12:10 – 1:10	Period 4
1:10 – 1:55	Lunch
1:55 – 2:55	Period 5

We are going back to a traditional lunchtime, with just one lunch break for all students and staff. There will be sittings for different year groups within the lunch break, but there will be an end to the current arrangements whereby some students are having lunch while others are in lessons.

School Uniform

As you are aware, we have also been discussing our new school uniform. Students have been involved in designing this and parents have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals. All students in years 7-10 must wear the new uniform as from September. Y11 can wear the "old" or "new" uniform. The sew-on blazer badge and the tie and cravat will be sold by Uniform Direct at £3.99 each and parents choosing a blazer can either buy a blazer in the shop of their choice and sew a badge on it, or buy a blazer from Uniform Direct with a badge already on it.

BOYS	GIRLS
Compulsory	Compulsory
Black Trousers or Tailored Shorts – knee length, not sport shorts	Black Trousers or Tailored Shorts – knee length, not sport shorts or Black Skirt – at least knee length
White Shirt Hereford School Tie	White Shirt Hereford School Tie or Hereford Cravat
Optional	Optional
Black Blazer with Hereford Badge Plain black or grey V-Neck cardigan or black or grey cardigan with red ribbon from Uniform Direct	Black Blazer with Hereford Badge Plain black or grey V-Neck cardigan or black or grey cardigan with red ribbon from Uniform Direct
Footwear (Compulsory)	Footwear (Compulsory)
Plain black or brown School Shoes (not trainers or leisure shoes) Trousers must be worn outside socks	Plain black or brown School Shoes (not trainers or leisure shoes) Trousers must be worn outside socks Students may wear neutral/black tights

PE Kit

Trainers

Football boots

New PE kit, compulsory for the Year 7 & 8 of September 2010 and optional for all other students:

Black or red and black (at student's discretion) top with HTS logo

Plain black shorts or black with red flashes and HTS logo

Red socks

Three-quarter or full-length plain black bottoms, at student's discretion

Students may wear whatever combination of the new kit they feel most comfortable in.

The old PE kit that students in years 9, 10 and 11 may wear is:

Boys - Hereford yellow top, plain black shorts, yellow socks.

Girls - Hereford yellow top, plain black shorts, yellow socks.

School Dress Code

We believe that the appearance of our students is important and, in line with the Government's wishes, we have a compulsory school uniform. We expect students to follow its spirit and we will not allow extremes of fashion or extreme interpretations of the uniform rules. The Headteacher and Governors have the final say in what students may or may not wear. "Black trousers", for example, means plain black, school style, **without** any extra cargo pockets, buckles, zips, ornaments or anything else that makes them not plain black, school style. "Black or brown shoes" means plain, school style shoes, **not** trainers, skate shoes, canvas shoes, boots, sandals or anything else.

Specialist Schools & Academies Trust – Most Improved Club

For the fourth year on the run, we have been invited to participate in this club. This means that we are constantly being recognised for the improvements that we are making to the academic standards in our school.

Governor Update

After 14 years of successfully leading the Governing Body, Mr Malcolm Towle has resigned as Chair of Governors. I wish to thank him for the loyalty and support that he has given to the school, overseeing a spectacular improvement in the service Hereford offers its students. Mr Alan Nicholson has stepped in as Chairperson until the next Governing Body election.

We currently have vacancies for Parent Governors – if you wish to volunteer your help, please refer to the attached letter and return the relevant pro-forma.

New Build and Extended October Half Term Break

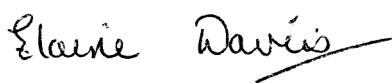
We are still on schedule to open after the October half-term. The building is now water-tight and when I visited on Friday 7th May paint work was going on the wall and the Science labs had all the services in place. Many students have visited their new school and are keeping diaries of their visits including photographs.

Plans are underway for 2 celebrations – one to look back on 45 years of learning in the existing building and another for the opening of our new build.

To move into the new build, packing and unpacking a school the size of Hereford, is a mammoth task. We will, therefore, be **extending the October half term break by 4 days for all students**. Staff will use the 4 extra days for practical tasks and for training associated with the new build. This means that school will close on Friday 22nd October 2010 and it will re-open on Friday 5th November for a familiarisation day for students and parents. We require all students to attend the familiarisation day, which counts as part of term, so that they are totally ready for lessons on Monday 8th November and we hope that many parents will be able to come and have a look round too.

Finally, thank you for your continued support – I will write again in the near future with final arrangements for the start of the new school year and plan to have the annual calendar for next year published on the school website by Monday 17th May. I can confirm that in the forthcoming academic year Hereford will open to students on Thursday, 2nd September 2010.

All the very best to you and your family,



E Davies
Headteacher