



**Moor Park
High School
and Sixth Form**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the spring term, I want to begin by sincerely thanking you for your support and kindness during my first full term as Headteacher. It has been an eventful and defining term for Moor Park. Our recent Ofsted inspection provided valuable clarity and direction, helping us refine our vision and renew our focus on the school's priorities. We are already working hard on the next steps of our improvement journey, and we will continue to keep families informed.

This term has also included a significant range of trips, enrichment events, curriculum experiences, performances and competitions. We are committed to ensuring our pupils access as many opportunities as possible beyond the classroom, and we look forward to continuing and expanding this programme in the summer term.

The repurposing of the Sixth Form building will begin shortly, enabling us to create new, modern, well-equipped teaching spaces for main school pupils. Importantly, pupils will have the opportunity to contribute their ideas and feedback as part of the design process. Pupil voice will be central, and we will take their views into consideration as new spaces are planned. We have also submitted for planning permission for full security re-fencing across the school perimeter. This will significantly strengthen the safety of our outdoor areas, including the main yard and the spaces pupils use during social times and transitions.

In terms of behaviour and conduct I am very proud of the overwhelming majority of our children, their conduct in and around the community is exemplary, however there have been a couple of incidents of anti-social behaviour where pupils have been identified as being part of our school because of them being in uniform. This brings the name of the school into disrepute, and I must remind everyone the behaviour management policy applies whilst in pupils are in uniform.

We have also seen an increase in play fighting, which pupils often describe as "messaging about," but which can quickly escalate into real conflict. Even when no harm is intended, the risk of injury, misunderstandings or fallouts is high, and it disrupts the calm and respectful environment we expect around school. It does not matter whether pupils are close friends or simply joking around. Play fighting is not allowed at any time. Please support us by reinforcing this message at home. Sanctions will be applied to pupils who choose to ignore this expectation, as keeping everyone safe is our priority.

The Department for Education has signalled a national move towards restricting smartphone use in schools. We have been ahead of time as far as this matter is concerned, the use of mobile phones has been banned in Moor Park for over twenty years, long before smartphones were ever invented. We will be consulting parents and carers next term, to seek their views on the possibility of moving towards a smartphone-free school, or to remain with the current policy and your voice will be essential in shaping this decision. However

following this letter, we will circulate information about the use of mobile phones and sanctions which will be put into effect for the start the summer term. Please read the information and ensure that your child is clear about procedures.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind families that parent representatives sit on our Governing Body and play a vital role in championing parental voice and contributing to our ongoing school improvement work. As you know, we recently had a vacancy for a Parent Governor. We are pleased to have received two expressions of interest, and we will be in touch shortly with details of the next steps in the election process so that you can select your new parent representative.

I am as always very grateful for the encouragement, trust and partnership you have shown throughout my first term as Headteacher. It has been a privilege to work so closely with our families, and your continued support makes an enormous difference to the progress we are able to achieve together. I am deeply proud of our pupils, our staff and our wider community, and I look forward to building on the strong foundations we have set this term.

As we come to the end of Lent and approach the Easter period, I would like to offer my warmest wishes to all our Christian families who will be celebrating this important time in the calendar. Easter is a season that symbolises hope, renewal and new beginnings. I would also like to wish every member of our school community a peaceful, restful and enjoyable holiday. I hope the break provides everyone with the chance to rest, recharge and spend valuable time with loved ones.

Yours sincerely

U. Ishtiaq
Headteacher