

12 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you following the new school term.

Students have come back into school very well after the long Summer break. They look smart in their school uniform and have settled into their lessons and new timetable quickly.

19 September

Following the sad news on Thursday evening of the passing of The Queen, students had opportunities in school on Friday to learn about and to reflect on her life, the values she sought to embody and her legacy. The whole school held a minute's silence at midday as bells were rung in churches across the country. This week we will be considering the changes we have seen in the world during her 70 years on the throne. This will be through a series of special assemblies from our history team. Throughout these activities students have shown thoughtful reflection and the utmost respect.

The government has announced that Monday 19 September, the day of the state funeral, will be a bank holiday and schools are to be closed on that day. School will open again on Tuesday 20 September.

Domestic violence

Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedfordshire Police have asked schools to inform parents/carers about a new initiative called Operation Encompass. This replaces previous arrangements and ensures that a designated and trained member of school staff is informed where the police have been involved in a case of domestic abuse experienced by a child or young person. This is a highly confidential arrangement designed to help schools to provide any necessary support for the child or young person.

Governing body

The Vandyke Governing body carries out an important role in the school. We have two vacancies for Parent/carer governors. If you are interested in becoming a governor or finding out more about it please contact the clerk, Barbara Britton, brittonb@vandyke.cbeds.co.uk. The closing date for applications will be 23 September.

If you have any questions please contact office@vandyke.cbeds.co.uk and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

We are looking forward to the successful start to the year continuing for everyone at Vandyke.

Yours sincerely



Tim Carroll

Headteacher