

# BODMIN COLLEGE

# PARENT BULLETIN

October 2019

*Striving for excellence by putting the learner first*

## Message from the Principal

As the nights draw in and the weather gets colder you will find timely reminders to help students stay safe and warm on their journeys to and from school. There is still lots going on to brighten up these darker evenings though.

After school clubs are being well attended (see details on our website) and rehearsals have commenced for the Dance Platform, Christmas Concert and, of course, Mary Poppins.

Revision classes are being very well attended and sports fixtures continue, although sometimes with earlier start times. The new Library is proving very popular as is the new student wellbeing hub and with the Santa Fun Run too, there's lots to look forward to!

Mrs Seward-Adams, Principal

## School Closures

We take the decision to close the school very seriously as it is not a light decision to make. Our procedures are as follows:

### Closure during the school day

Should a decision be made to close the school during the school day, we will advise Cornwall Council (this information will be shown on their 'School Closures' page and we will text parents with information on how to collect your child.

This information will also appear on our website and Facebook page

### Closure out of hours

If a decision is taken to close the school out of school hours, as above, the information will appear on our website, Facebook page and also on the Cornwall Council School Closures page.

Please also find attached information for parents from Cornwall Council about school closures.

## Road Safety

We have had several members of the public concerned about student road safety whilst riding their bikes, scooters and checking their phones to and from school.

Heads of Year will be re-addressing road safety in assemblies but please can parents and carers also stress the need for students to be alert when crossing the road and whilst being a road user.

We also strongly advise that students wear helmets when travelling to and from school on their bikes or scooters and, during the darker mornings and afternoons, reflective clothing and lights.

## Uniform: Outdoor Coats/Hoodies

Please can we remind parents/carers that the winter is drawing in and all students need to have a warm jacket or coat. Please note that hoodies are not accepted as replacements of these.

Students may wear hoodies to and from school as extra clothing underneath a coat but they will not be permitted to wear them whilst at school.

If your child lost a coat during last half term, please send them to our Reception as we have a number of unclaimed coats waiting for their rightful owners.

### Mobile Phones

Our College policy allows the use of mobile phones at break, lunchtime, before and after school only and only in designated 'Phone Zones'. We do not wish to ban phones from the College as we understand that some parents/carers like the reassurance that their child can contact them in case of an emergency to and from school. However, we would like to remind students, parents and carers that mobile phones must be switched off during lesson time. It is our aim to teach our students responsible phone use that strikes a balance between modern life and the use of apps, including study apps, but also social skills as well as mental and physical wellbeing.

For this reason phone use is not permitted in corridors and classrooms unless with specific permission from a member of staff or when directed to as part of a learning activity.

### Santa Fun Run 2019

Advance notice of the College's annual Santa Fun Run 2019 which will be taking

place on Tuesday 10 December. More information to follow.

### Mary Poppins: The Musical

Tickets for the College production of Mary Poppins are now available on sale from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/bodmincollege](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bodmincollege) Dates of performances are from 29-31 January 2020.

### Dates to Remember

14 Nov	Year 12/13 Parents' evening
15 Nov	Non-uniform Day (Children in Need)
19-21 Nov	Dance Platform
28 Nov	English/Maths and Science Parents' evening

### Websites and Helplines for Parents and Carers

Cornwall Council have issued the attached list of websites and helplines for parents and carers.

### Chestnuts Drop-In Sessions

The Chestnut Centre will be holding drop-in sessions for young people aged 11-25 – see the attached poster for details.

Bodmin College  
Lostwithiel Road  
Bodmin  
Cornwall, PL31 1DD  
  
Tel: 01208 72114  
[www.bodmincollege.co.uk](http://www.bodmincollege.co.uk)

**Safeguarding:** Bodmin College has a duty of care over each one of its pupils and will deal with issues sensitively and in accordance with statutory requirements. Designated Safeguarding Leads: Ms L Carter and Mrs S Gilbert

**Young Carers:** We would appreciate knowing if any of our students are actively engaged as 'carers' in order that any support available may be accessed.

**Free School Meals:** Are you eligible? Follow this link, or contact Mr Greagsby at the College, for more information: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=20132>