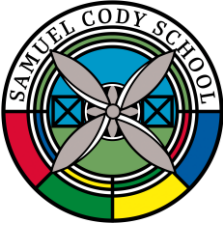


Samuel Cody School



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Headteacher: Mrs S Chinnappa BSc M.Ed. NPQH

30th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you at the end of a very busy month of the Autumn term. Our pupils in primary and our students in secondary have come back to school happy and on the most part eager to learn! It has been a lively first month back and we have welcomed over fifty new children across all phases and contexts. If you are a parent or carer who is new to Samuel Cody School, please familiarise yourselves with our website and the policies on it including the Parent/Carers Code of Conduct and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024.

We have recruited a new Mental Health and Pastoral Lead who is also a YR 11 tutor. Mr Woodward is also a deputy DSL and has experience of delivering performing arts and is currently offering a drama club after school for secondary students. If your child is interested in joining this club, please tell them to speak to Mr Woodward. We are all looking forward to some performances in the near future.

One of the most important messages we try to instil in our children while they are at Samuel Cody is to be kind to others. Can I please ask all parents and carers to revisit this theme this week to help us with the on-going delivery of this message. Please keep an eye on what your children are accessing on their mobile devices as there have already been some incidents of students being unkind to each other online and out of school hours.

Many parents will be aware that we have had some building work completed over the holidays. As a result there is now a new system for parking in school. Please follow the new one way arrows, and if you are parking at drop off or pick up time, to the left of the main school building, you will need to exit at the Ballantyne Road exit. If you park in the primary carpark, you will need to exit at the Chaucer Road exit. Parents dropping off and picking up who park outside the main school entrance will need to exit at the Chaucer Road exit too.

The rear third of the primary building has now been completely refurbished and this has resulted in an additional two classrooms, a new staff room, an ELSA/meeting room, a new Primary Lead's office, an admin office and a reception area. Hampshire County Council are in the process of creating new primary reception signage and this will be installed soon. In the meantime, all primary parents who need to sign in should do so at the new reception which fronts the primary school car park. We are grateful for the work that Hampshire has undertaken during the summer to create a much better working environment for our primary pupils and staff.

Our catering in school is currently provided by HC3S and the cost of meals has gone up. A primary lunch is £3.20 and a secondary lunch £3.40. Any new parent who wishes to order school meals for their child should contact the school office who will help set you up on Arbor.

This coming year we have some residential activities planned for years 7 to 11. Year 7 returned from the school's first ever sleepover on HMS Belfast in London on Friday and they had a great time. Other trips this year include a trip to Avon Tyrell in the new Forest, one to

Shanklin on the Isle of Wight and another to Lulworth Cove in Dorset. The Year 11's will participate in a transition week in November. Information will be available later in the year. I know that you will join me in thanking our staff team for their dedication in helping facilitate these trips. They do so in their own time at no cost to the school and we are very lucky that they are prepared to give up time with their own families to support our students in this way.

All primary and secondary students will have two parents' evenings this academic year, one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. Years R to 10 will then receive end of year reports in July. Annual reviews of EHCP's will run throughout the year. Please ensure that you remember to send in your views for the annual review when asked.

I would like to remind parents of the protocols for reporting pupil and student concerns. In the first instance parents should contact their child's tutor. If this does not help to manage the issue, then the next port of call is the key stage lead. It is important to keep communicating with your child's tutor with regards to anything going on at home that might impact your child's physical and mental health. If you have a safeguarding concern about another child you can email the safeguarding team here at: safeguarding@samuelcody.hants.sch.uk

We are enhancing our safeguarding protocols this year and if you call the school and the admin team do not recognise your voice, you may be asked a security question to reassure them that they are speaking to an authorised parental contact. This could be, for example, your child's date of birth or the name of your child's last school. Additionally, please be mindful in letting the school know at the earliest opportunity that your child is going to be absent from school. This will prevent an absence line text being initiated by our school management system. Attendance is key to success and secondary students who achieve 100% attendance over the course of the year will qualify for a special reward trip with Mr Tyreman.

Finally, just a reminder that our next inset day is on Monday 4th November.

Thank you for your on-going support and I hope to meet you in school soon.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs S Chinnappa
Headteacher
Samuel Cody School