



JWH/ksd/Spring11

4 January 2011

Tanbridge House School
A Specialist Science, Mathematics &
Computing College

Dear Parents/Carers

Spring Term 2011

As a new term begins, I wanted to thank you for your support during 2010 and to look forward to an exciting year ahead.

I believe that 2010 proved to be a very positive and satisfying year for our school community. Academically, our very strong GCSE results confirmed the progress that the school continues to make. We have strength in teaching across all subject areas and there is an excellent blend of experienced and more youthful colleagues. In December, our results were confirmed by the Department for Education as being “significantly positive”. This means that students made much better than expected progress when final examinations were completed. Ofsted will regard this element of our work to be “outstanding”. I am very proud of the teachers, support staff and students for all of their efforts in this area.

Our position within the community continues to move from strength to strength. This is due to a number of factors which include our excellent pastoral care, community and charitable work and outstanding extra-curricular opportunities. When admissions are confirmed in March 2011, I fully expect the school to be over-subscribed for the forthcoming intake of September 2011.

2011 will provide a mixture of challenge and opportunity as local and national policy making impacts upon our school. Many of you will be aware of the housing development due to start, close to our western boundary, in the spring. We are working with the district and county councils to ensure this process is carefully managed and organised.

Governors and the Leadership Team are also considering, in detail, new elements of the coalition government’s White Paper entitled “The Importance of Teaching”. Many of you will be aware, from various media sources, that education is set to undergo a number of significant changes in the future. Crucially school budgets will be placed under significant strain whilst Headteachers up and down the country must decide whether a move towards Academy status is the right thing for youngsters, their families and the school itself. In due course, I will ensure that you are fully briefed and consulted should significant changes be necessary.

Whatever the outcome of such policy changes, our emphasis at Tanbridge House will remain unaltered. New ideas may come and go, but the focus upon high quality teaching and learning coupled to superb levels of conduct, discipline and community spirit must stay the same.

Here, I must thank you again for your support in ensuring that basic standards are maintained. Essentials such as punctuality and full school uniform (black shoes and no hoodies!) are a fundamental part of this process.

I would also urge you to ensure that your child takes great care with their use of IT. We are fortunate that, regardless of the vast array of technologies available, students at Tanbridge House continue to use the internet, their phones and other gadgets responsibly. I must emphasise, however, that should these technologies ever be used for unpleasant or intimidatory purposes, or indeed to bring the school into disrepute, I would have no hesitation in bringing the strongest sanctions to bear.

I am delighted that the mood of staff and students is already very positive and we are really looking forward to further successes on the sports field and through a host of after school activities including our Young Designers Group and Science Club. Exciting initial preparations are already underway for our production of Evita and further details will follow in due course.

I know that with your ongoing support our school will continue to improve and flourish.

May I wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jules White', written in a cursive style.

Jules White
Headteacher