



Engage Develop Aspire Communicate
Our vision
Working towards successful futures

Principal's message to families – 3 May 2024

Next weeks Lower school word of the week is - [Adventure](#)
The Upper school word of the week is – [generate](#)

What a busy week for Upper school this week. A big group of our **KS3** pupils have been to the PGL residential this week- Ill share more of their week next week once we have had chance to look at all the photos and hear more about their activities. They had great weather and I know really enjoyed the canoeing yesterday, and the axe throwing!! (well done to Miss Canning who apparently was a real star at this!). As usual, several children have really been able to face their fears- staying away from home, climbing to the top of the abseiling tower, joining in with everything....amazing! It sounds like they've had such good fun and will sleep well this weekend. Those left at school have had different lessons, with different groups and have all managed really well.

KS4 and 5 students have been working hard to complete assessments and coursework- staff have worked well to support them through challenges, I'm sure you'll join me in a big thank you to staff and a well done to the students.

In Lower school we welcome Okeley, our therapy (Giant French Lop) rabbit, who will be based in our Primary area! He joined the staff morning briefing earlier today and really took centre stage. He actually stood more quietly than quite a few of the staff (mentioning no names, but you know who you are!)



Thank you too for your patience this week with regards to the provision of hot food for your children. We took the decision not to use the kitchen for hot food while the fire alarm was repaired- hard work for the catering team but as always, they looked after our children well.



The importance of coming to school

As the school year continues to fly past at a pace, we begin to think about all the successes we have seen across all parts of the school. We have seen pupils develop in so many ways overcoming lots of challenges that come with being a young person in school. These successes and achievements can only happen if the children are attending as much as possible even though this may at times be difficult. Here at Dawn House, we are very sensitive and flexible to the individual needs of children so I would encourage you to reach out to your form teacher or our Wellbeing Team in school if you need any help or assistant to ensure your child can attend as much as possible. We would like to improve our school's overall attendance rate and reduce the number of pupils who miss more than 10% of their learning time and by working together we may see some successes in attendance also.

The Government's definition of persistent absenteeism is anyone with an attendance rate of less than 90%. Attendance has had many media reports nationally during the year and is something that we are required to report on. Our undeniable goal is however, for every individual pupil attending Dawn House School to achieve their very own individual best in all areas of their development and learning.

Thank you for supporting us in this way.

Advance notice:

Options event 23.5.24 @ 2.30 (please see attachment for details)

Enjoy your long weekend,
Jenny

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P.S.

PGL Residential Trip





If your child leaves home in the morning a little unsettled and you want to quickly tell us, so we know to expect a tricky start to the day, a quick email (that we can follow up later) to the tutor and/or core team with '**Handle with Care**' in the email title will ensure that we are aware.