

7th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: New Recognition and Rewards System

I hope you have all had lovely summers and your son or daughter has had a smooth start to the term.

I am delighted to be writing to make you aware of our brand-new system of recognition and rewards. Earlier this year I met with different groups of pupils to explore how we could improve our system and make it more motivating and relevant. The pupils gave excellent feedback and made the following recommendations:

- Achievement points should count towards something throughout the year
- Pupils liked the current categories for awarding achievement points e.g. effort, classwork, achievement, kindness, wisdom, school values etc
- There should be smaller rewards more often e.g. Student of the Week
- There should be more certificates and rewards linked to attendance
- Prizes should be small and regular e.g. queue jump pass, stationery, tray bakes
- End of term prizes should be time away from lessons e.g. pizza party, film
- More exciting tutor group and department competitions where achievement points are awarded
- More recognition for achievements at Sports Day

I am pleased to say that we have been able to implement many of these suggestions for this academic year and the details of the new system are outlined below:

- Bronze, Silver and Gold badges (design chosen by the pupils) will be awarded for pupils getting 150, 250 and 350 achievement points respectively in the academic year. This will be 50, 75 and 100 for Year 11. These will be awarded in assemblies every half-term and will be worn on the school blazer.
- Badges will be awarded termly for each of the school values: Love, Respect, Responsibility and Respect (only school badges will be permitted on school uniform).
- There will be a Student of the Week in each year group and they will receive a certificate and prize (canteen queue jump pass for a week and a small prize).
- There are new certificates for attendance (100%, over 96% and most improved attendance).
- There will be end of term treats for pupils with the highest number of achievements points (pizza party, film/popcorn, music/karaoke). Heads of Year will select the top 25-30 pupils in each year group.
- Each subject department will run competitions, thus increasing the opportunities to win achievement points.
- Prizes, trophies and certificates will be given for effort and achievement at Sports Day.

In order to reduce waste and costs, we will ask that all bronze and silver badges are returned at the end of the academic year so they can be re-issued in the future. However, winning a gold badge will be a very special achievement and pupils will be permitted to keep these.

We will continue to consult our pupils and refine and develop the system in the coming years. If your son or daughter have any further suggestions, please do ask them to come and see me, it would be great to hear more ideas.

Yours faithfully,
Mr Chamberlain