**Autumn Newsletter 2018-19**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a good summer break and enjoyed the fantastic hot weather over the holidays. It has been lovely to see all the students returning to school to start the autumn term and to catch up with their news. All students now have a new Home/School diary and a copy of the 2018-2019 timetable.

This year our teaching team is - Julie Clark, Teacher of the Deaf, and SSAs - Susan Zwarra Gibbon, Christine Bone, Kelly Murphy, Jason Shipley and Belinda Maddison. Sam Dowling will be teaching Design and Technology, Kerry Moore will be leading sports and Kelly Sheridan will be supporting arts and textiles projects.

The students will be commencing or continuing with courses in entry level English and maths as well as following the ASDAN Personal Development Programme. We will also be following ASDAN and Ascentis short courses in science, humanities, computing and PHSE.

We will focus on the following areas of learning:

* In English we will be focussing upon developing reading skills and will select a range of short stories and books to read independently. We have also chosen to study the novel ‘Animal Farm’ by George Orwell, we will read excerpts from the novel and complete a short project on characters; events and themes.
* In our maths lesson we will be building upon knowledge of basic number skills, we will revise and extend understanding of addition and subtraction. Our maths topic will be Shape and Space.

Poppy Welsh our speech and language therapist will be continuing individual SaLT programmes over the year, developing our language and communication in a range of settings. Julie Osborne, our occupational therapist will be providing support for students throughout the curriculum, she will be focused on working in class sessions promoting fine motor skills, home management skills and independence.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us on:

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Best wishes,

14 – 19 team