

Wednesday 13th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust this newsletter finds you well. I am thrilled to share some wonderful updates about the positive strides we've made in recognising and celebrating the achievements of our students through the Prosper Points system.

In recent months, the Prosper Points initiative has gained incredible traction among our students, reflecting their positive attitudes. The enthusiasm displayed has been truly commendable, and it warms my heart to witness the positive impact this system has had on our school community.



The Prosper Points system has not only been a success in promoting positive behaviour but has also paved the way for various exciting activities and treats for our students. From delightful food treats to thrilling trips such as bowling and Clip 'n Climb, our students have relished these experiences, fostering a sense of camaraderie and teamwork.

I'm delighted to share that some of our students have earned a well-deserved Friday takeaway for the points they've accumulated. This not only acknowledges their individual achievements but also instils a healthy sense of competition and motivation within our school community.

In addition to our success with the Prosper Points system, I am excited to announce some new additions to our school community. We have welcomed several new colleagues, both on the teaching assistant side and within the pastoral team. These individuals bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our already strong and consistent team, which works diligently with your children every day. We welcome Shane (TA) Anna-May (TA), Sara (EHCP administrator), Amanda (who is developing performance opportunities), Zoe (pastoral team) and Alan on the teaching team. Owen, Offiah and Maria have also joined us very recently and we are looking forward to their support into the new year.

These new colleagues have seamlessly integrated into our school community, and their fresh perspectives and energy have been a welcome addition. Together, we are committed to maintaining a positive and supportive school culture that encourages the personal and academic growth of each student.



As we approach the New Year, I am thrilled to share some exciting developments that will further enrich the learning experience for our students at Brunel School.

In mid-January, we are delighted to welcome an excellent Outdoor Education coach from Scotland who will be joining our team. This addition will significantly enhance our outdoor

education provision, allowing students to explore and learn in the great outdoors under the guidance of an experienced professional.



One of the highlights of the upcoming term, within the Prosper Programme, will be the addition of learning opportunities in the forest. These sessions will focus on developing key skills such as resilience, stamina, navigation, and survival. It's an opportunity for our students to connect with nature, learn valuable life skills, and foster a sense of adventure and exploration.

We are also excited to share that we are on the waiting list for a small farm in the area that provides unique opportunities for young people to learn about caring for animals. This hands-on experience will not only teach them about animal care but also instill a sense of responsibility and empathy.

Over the Christmas Break, a new climbing area will be installed in the lower school playground. We are looking forward to being able to spend more outside, positive time with our younger students.



Looking ahead to Spring, we have plans to develop a horticultural patch in our grounds. This project will provide students with the opportunity to learn about gardening, sustainability, and the importance of caring for our environment. The children are eager to take an active role in this initiative, and we are enthusiastic about the positive impact it will have on their learning journey.

In response to the children's curiosity and enthusiasm, discussions are underway with the Trust about the possibility of introducing small animals such as rabbits and chickens to our school community. This initiative aligns with our commitment to providing diverse and engaging learning experiences that go beyond the traditional classroom setting.



As we embark on these new adventures, we are confident that these additions to our curriculum will contribute to the holistic development of our students, fostering a love for learning and a deeper connection with the world around them. If you have any thoughts, questions, or suggestions, please feel free to reach out. Thank you for your continued partnership in creating a dynamic and enriching educational experience for our students.

Wishing you a joyful and restful holiday season and we look forward to our students returning to school on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Best regards,
Vikki Alden
Headteacher