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19 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

### **Celebrating a Fantastic Term & Looking Ahead to 2026**

As we approach the end of this term, I want to thank you for your incredible support. Together, we have achieved so much—and we are proud to share some highlights:

- **Winter Showcase:** Last week's event was a wonderful celebration of creativity and talent with over 120 students participating. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our performers.
- **Excellent Mock Exam Outcomes:** Year 11 and Year 13 students have shown real determination and focus in their recent mock exams — an encouraging sign for the months ahead.
- **Recognition for Excellence:** BFS has been named in the *Sunday Times Parent Power Guide 2026* as one of the best state schools in the Southwest — a testament to our shared commitment to high standards.

Next term, we are excited to launch a **new-style newsletter**, featuring more student-created content to showcase the amazing things happening across our school community.

#### **Looking Ahead – January Start**

- School reopens to students on **Tuesday 6 January**.
- Students should arrive by **8:25am**, ready for tutor time at **8:30am**.  
Please note: **AM registration closes at 9:00am**—after this time, a present mark cannot be awarded.

#### **Uniform & Equipment – Ready for a Strong Start**

The holiday is a great time to check uniform and equipment, so students return ready to learn.

##### **Uniform reminders:**

- Blazers (Terms 1–5) and ties are compulsory
  - Grey trousers worn at waist height (belt if needed)
  - Skirts at or around knee length — please check as many students have grown!
  - Shirts should be tucked in at all times (except social times, never untucked indoors)
  - No hoodies, excessive jewellery, makeup, facial piercings, or unnatural hair colours
- Students not compliant with uniform standards will be sent home to correct it immediately.

##### **Essential equipment:**

- School bag, pencil case, pens (black/blue & red), pencils, ruler, eraser, sharpener, full glue stick
- Scientific calculator (Casio 83GTX or 85GTX recommended)
- Geometry set, coloured pencils, reading book, refillable water bottle

Being prepared helps every student make the most of every lesson.

##### **Phone-Free School:**

Thank you for supporting our phone-free policy. This has led to improved focus, better learning behaviour, and fewer distractions. If you need to contact your child in an emergency, please email the admin team or call **0117 9597200**.



**This Term's Behaviour Focus & Next Steps**

- Calm corridors — no running or shouting
- Every student deserves disruptive free learning every minute of every lesson
- Scooters and bikes must not be used during the school day

**Consequences for non-compliance:**

- Formal warning
- 1 minute detention
- 30-minute detention
- Loss of social time for repeated issues
- Behaviour Support Room and parental meetings if necessary

We are excited for the opportunities 2026 will bring and look forward to working with you to support your child's progress and wellbeing. Thank you for your continued partnership in making BFS a place of ambition, community, and opportunity.

**Wishing you a joyful holiday and a Happy New Year!**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S King', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs S King  
Headteacher