

MOTIVATION AND CHALLENGE FOR ALL

The Blandford School Tel: 01258 451121
Milldown Road Fax: 01258 454755
Blandford Forum Email: office@blandfordschool.org.uk
Dorset, DT11 7SQ Web: www.blandfordschool.org.uk

**THE BLANDFORD
SCHOOL**

14 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carers

As we close for the Christmas and New Year break, I wanted to provide you with a short update on our application to join Sherborne Area Schools' Trust. We understand the application will be considered by the Regional Schools' Director in the late Spring of 2024 with an intended start date of September 2024. There has been a delay in the process, not helped by the fact a large number of schools are currently converting.

We are already working closely with the Trust, examples of this include our governors working group led by James Vaughan, Chair of Governors meeting with the CEO and Chair of Trustees; I am attending monthly headteacher meetings and we are also working closely with Steve Smith, their Education Director in terms of aligning school improvement. Alongside this we are conducting due diligence in terms of IT, Estates and HR. You may remember the stakeholder consultation to academise was last spring so whilst we wait for the final sign off, please do not hesitate to contact myself or James Vaughan, Chair of Governors via office@blandfordschool.org.uk to discuss any aspect of the transition or if you have any questions.

As the end of term approaches, I would like to recommend our bumper winter edition of The Blandford Flyer which is being sent out today. Alongside wonderful individual and group/team success stories are reports from our Heads of Year, please take time to peruse and share with families. We are also thrilled to hear about individual success outside of school, please let us know if your child has a story to tell and we will publicise this in future Flyers. If your child has left us and wishes to share their successes post TBS, please ask them to let us know what they are doing and send a photo!

Finally, very many thanks from myself and our Governing Board to all parents/carers who have taken time to contact us in the last few months to thank us for our support of your children. It means a lot to individual staff and the wider team.

School will re-open to students again on Wednesday, 3rd January 2024.

May I wish you all a healthy and safe festive period.

Yours sincerely



Sally Wilson
Headteacher.

