

## Hints and tips from Parents to Parents:

Our Parent Forum Group has shared the following points and recommendations to support new parents with the transition from primary to secondary.

- Help your child to pack their bags over the first few weeks; this will help with their planning and understanding their needs. It will also help with your knowledge of their timetable and gives you the opportunity to offer reassurance etc.
- Check your child's Planner every night and sign it at the end of each week.
- With homework, let your child have a go independently first and then offer support if needed; encourage your child to do some every night to avoid it building up.
- Try to encourage your child to take a snack or some fruit in case they miss lunch time for any reason.
- A water bottle is needed, try to encourage your child to drink as a habit; once they are thirsty their concentration has already been affected.
- Spend some time talking to your child about their day, pick that moment carefully, it might come in the car, after some down time etc. Some questions to focus the conversation may be:-
  - What was the best thing you have learned today?
  - What was the most surprising thing you learned today?
  - Can you remember what you learned in xxx lesson today?
  - What did you find hardest today? Is there anything you could do differently in the lesson?
  - What do you need to ask your teacher in the next lesson to make sure you understand that topic better?
- Try to spend 5 minutes just reviewing the day's work and thinking of one question that they would like to ask their teacher the next lesson.
- Offer plenty of positive feedback and praise.
- Keep in mind that success comes from learning from mistakes e.g. WD40 started as WD1, then WD2 before they perfected it.
- Try to remember the way your children learn information - 6% information retained if we are lectured at; 10% if re-read; 50% if talk about it; 90% if they teach a parent or carer.

### Things to try and master:

- I can get my school bag ready
- I can get my PE kit ready
- I can get my College clothes ready
- I can help with my family chores
- I can cook a meal for my family
- I have done an extra-curricular activity

In Year 7 students are regularly assessed to check progress. This will involve revision and as your son or daughter continues into KS4 the tips below may help.

**Points on guidance on how to help your child revise:**

- Ensure they have a quiet and tidy space to revise.
- Minimise low level fun i.e. spending time on phone but reward with high level fun to give your child something to look forward to - cinema, walk, bike ride, evening with mates, etc.
- Make sure revision is constructive and focuses on weak areas rather than concentrating on elements that they already know.
- Make the internet and a printer available including replacement cartridges, plenty of lined and plain paper.
- Plan ahead; there may be resources available for printing at College.
- Reprographics sell flash cards (brightly coloured A5 cards); located in the Peverall Hall corridor.
- Sit and spend time with your child testing them on their revision.
- Top them up with water and food.
- Ensure they have lots of sleep, exercise and regular breaks.

**To help support your child in finding their way around the College, our College layout and room numbering system is:**

There are 7 Blocks:

- Bonville Block
  - Crocker Block
  - Dymock Block
  - Haring Block
  - Millennium Block
  - Neil Maythorne
  - Peverall
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- All the Blocks lead off the Blue carpet (centre of the College)
  - There are 5 floors 0 – 4
  - Each classroom is labelled above or beside door e.g. B2.08 = Bonville Block, Floor 2, 8<sup>th</sup> Classroom.
  - Students have a copy of the College map in their Planner and also one contained in their Crossing the Bridge Student Guide.

Our Parent Forum Group is a regular attendee at Parents' Evenings and Events and we always welcome new members. For further information please email the College [parentforum@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:parentforum@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk).