

Dear Parent and Carers,

Welcome to the start of the new school year at Compass. I trust that families were able to enjoy the summer holiday including the fantastic weather we were blessed with. It has been good to be back and a pleasure to see pupils and staff return in good spirits and ready for the term ahead. A special welcome to our new cohort of year 7 pupils and their families into our school community. They have settled in well, enjoying their new school and looking smart in their new uniforms. The first half of the cohort have enjoyed their residential trip to RAF Wittering, with the rest eager to follow on Monday.

### **GCSE exams boost**

Our school community has been boosted by the achievement in our first set of GCSE results. It was fantastic to see pupils' smiles as they learned in assembly about how year 11 did and the top grades several were able to achieve. We are proud of their results and see these as a true indication of our potential to become an outstanding local school.

- A quarter of entries in English (26%) achieved top grades 7 to 9, equivalent to A\*-A on the previous scale and 79% achieved grades 4 to 9
- Over half of our pupils gained 5 or more GCSEs at grades 4 to 9
- Serhan achieved double 9s in Science alongside an 8 in Maths and Khalil was awarded a grade 9 in English
- Savannah and Jamie-Lee achieved grade 8s in English
- Robbie and Stephen's results included 4 at grades 7-9

Our new cohort of year 11 are set to raise the bar higher and will be supported throughout the year to ensure they reach the destination to which they aspire.

### **Academic excellence**

In the coming year we will continue of focus on ensuring your child has the opportunity to achieve their potential through great teaching in the classroom, setting frequent home learning activities, and providing regular feedback to pupils and parents to enable them to know how well they are doing and how they can get better. It is critical that parents work with us to support your child learning, so we will shortly publish guides to your child's learning for each subject including topics for study, assessments, sample answers, key word and links to online resources.

### **Excellent behavior and attendance**

Excellent behavior and attendance is a strong indicator of academic and social success, both of which open up opportunities that would otherwise be closed to pupils. Conversely, poor behaviour and low levels of attendance removes opportunities for pupils to learn and achieve. Our classroom FOCUS strategy aims to ensure pupils make the most of all lessons and our [Behaviour for Learning handbook](#), which has been shared with families, outlines our behaviour, uniform and equipment expectations. We appreciate your full support in ensuring excellent standards of behaviour so all pupils learn well.

All families should aim for their child to achieve 100% attendance and be punctual to school. Instances of non-attendance and lateness mean your child misses out on learning, other pupils' learning is disrupted, and resources are diverted away from teaching and enrichment to address the

problem. Every lesson, every day counts in your child's learning journey and they deserve to be here to benefit. It is not unusual for children to feel a little unwell at times but make a full recovery at playtimes. Where there is doubt, do send your child in with a note, and we'll keep an eye on them to ensure they are okay and call you if they remain unwell. We have increased our Education Welfare Service provision to ensure that all pupils maintain high levels of attendance.

### **A face-lift for Compass**

There has been significant investment in our facilities over the summer with the installation of a new computer suite, internal painting, and the exterior of the building is currently having its make-over. Improvements have also been made to our website which is now live. It has a fresh new look with fantastic images and user-friendly navigation including dedicated pages for current parents and pupils. Visit [compass-schools.com](http://compass-schools.com).

### **Rewards**

Rewards are essential in recognising the fantastic work and achievements of our pupils that make Compass School a special place to learn. As a result, we have launched new rewards initiatives including our inter-house coin drop (Compass Coins) and merits system which will lead to postcards home, trips and other opportunities. We will continue to reward 100% attendance each half-term with our celebration brunch.

### **Working with parents**

We would like you to play a full and active part in school life. There are a range of events planned over the course of the academic year including workshops to help you support your child with their learning. The dates of these workshop events are included in this letter along with the dates for the parents' evenings where you can speak more formally to your child's teachers about their progress.

We also have a monthly parents' forum where you can drop-in and discuss the development of the school over tea and cakes with myself, or members of the leadership team. We will keep you posted about these opportunities, but it would also be helpful to also keep in touch by following us on Twitter: **@CompassSE16**.

Finally, attached to this letter is the list of Learning Family Tutors and Heads of Year along with their email addresses. Please do contact your child's LFT if you have any queries.

It is a privilege to continue leading Compass School and the next stage of its development. I wish you and your child the very best for the year ahead.

Yours faithfully,



Marcus Huntley  
Principal

## Compass Parent Support Sessions 2018-2019

Date	Who should attend	Event
13.09.18	Parents of Year 7-9	<b>Meet the tutor evening</b> 16:30 - 17:30 An opportunity to meeting your child's tutor to discuss the year ahead, our expectations and a chance to ask questions.
27.09.18	Parents of Year 10 and 11	<b>Key Stage 4 Evening</b> 16:30 – 18:00 Help boost your child's performance by learning about revision strategies and tips for success. Find out about applying to Sixth Forms. Meet your child's tutor to discuss the year ahead.
18.10.18	Parents of Year 7, 8 and 9	<b>KS3 evening</b> 16:30 - 17:30 Help boost your child's performance by learning about revision strategies and tips for success.
28.02.19	Year 8	<b>Options information evening</b> 16:30 – 18:00 Supporting you and your child to make those options choices for Key Stage 4.

### Dates for Parents Evenings 2018-19: 16:45 – 18:30

Year 11	Thursday, 15 November, 2018 & Thursday, 10 January, 2019
Year 10	Thursday, 29 November, 2018
Year 9	Thursday, 31 January, 2019
Year 8	Thursday, 14 February, 2019
Year 7	Thursday, 04 April, 2019

**Learning Family Tutors and Heads of Year 2018/19**

<b>Year 7</b>		
Head of Year	Ms. C Hayward	<a href="mailto:chayward@compass-schools.com">chayward@compass-schools.com</a>
North	Mr. P Haverty	<a href="mailto:phaverty@compass-schools.com">phaverty@compass-schools.com</a>
East	Mr. M Holness	<a href="mailto:mholness@compass-schools.com">mholness@compass-schools.com</a>
South	Mr. B May	<a href="mailto:bmay@compass-schools.com">bmay@compass-schools.com</a>
West	Ms. S Helme	<a href="mailto:shelme@compass-schools.com">shelme@compass-schools.com</a>
<b>Year 8</b>		
Head of Year	Ms. A Di Stazio	<a href="mailto:adistazio@compass-schools.com">adistazio@compass-schools.com</a>
8C1	Ms. N Sharif	<a href="mailto:nsharif@compass-schools.com">nsharif@compass-schools.com</a>
8C2	Ms. L Jackson	<a href="mailto:ljackson@compass-schools.com">ljackson@compass-schools.com</a>
8C3	Ms. N Muslui	<a href="mailto:nmuslui@compass-schools.com">nmuslui@compass-schools.com</a>
<b>Year 9</b>		
Head of Year	Ms. S Collison	<a href="mailto:scollison@compass-schools.com">scollison@compass-schools.com</a>
9C1	Ms. S Alexander	<a href="mailto:salexander@compass-schools.com">salexander@compass-schools.com</a>
9C2	Ms. F Mohamed	<a href="mailto:fmohamed@compass-schools.com">fmohamed@compass-schools.com</a>
9C3	Mr. O Omotayo	<a href="mailto:Oomotayo@compass-schools.com">Oomotayo@compass-schools.com</a>
<b>Year 10</b>		
Head of Year	Mr. P Egbuchiem	<a href="mailto:pegbuchiem@compass-schools.com">pegbuchiem@compass-schools.com</a>
10C1	Ms. V Cunninghame	<a href="mailto:vcunninghame@compass-schools.com">vcunninghame@compass-schools.com</a>
10C2	Mr. G Ahiko	<a href="mailto:gahiko@compass-schools.com">gahiko@compass-schools.com</a>
10C3	Ms. E Green	<a href="mailto:egreen@compass-schools.com">egreen@compass-schools.com</a>
<b>Year 11</b>		
Head of Year	Mr. M Flowers	<a href="mailto:mflowers@compass-schools.com">mflowers@compass-schools.com</a>
North	Mr. D Thompson	<a href="mailto:dthompson@compass-schools.com">dthompson@compass-schools.com</a>
East	Ms. E Walkey Williams	<a href="mailto:ewalkeywilliams@compass-schools.com">ewalkeywilliams@compass-schools.com</a>
South	Mr. J Guilherme	<a href="mailto:jguilherme@compass-schools.com">jguilherme@compass-schools.com</a>
West	Mr. U Gohar	<a href="mailto:ugohar@compass-schools.com">ugohar@compass-schools.com</a>