Dear Parent/Carer

20th December 2013

This has been an extremely busy term here at CGSB and I would like to say a big ‘thank you’ and ‘well done’ to all the students and staff who have coped admirably with the changes that have been necessary for us to move the school forward and successfully meet the challenge of coming out of Special Measures as quickly as possible. Feedback from student panels has been very positive regarding the improvements and the quality of their lessons; the levels of homework being set and the marking and assessment feedback of their work. I look forward to continuing to work with staff and students in the next term to continue to build on this momentum for the good of the whole school.

We have had many successes and causes to celebrate this term including:

- the historic League win of our First XI football team who have gained promotion to the Kent Premier League for the first time ever; I would like to thank Ms Tanti and Mrs Barnard for their support and training of the team and should mention William Sims, the Players’ Player, for his 20 goal haul during the season and Jamie Gillen, Manager’s Player of the season who literally put his body on the line for his team!
- the Christmas Concert was a fantastic illustration of the many talents our students have to offer and I would like to thank Mr Holeyman and Mrs Brooks for their hard work in putting together this special event

For further details of the activities undertaken this term please see the Holcombe Newsletter which is available on the website and was emailed to parents this week.

At this time of year there are a number of staff changes. We wish the following people well as they leave the school: Mr Cooper, Mr Crozier, Mr Freeman, Mr Maddocks, Mr Payne, Ms Smith. We wish Mrs Banks well as she goes on Maternity leave.

We welcomed Miss Veronese in December who joined the English Department and in January welcome: Mrs Robinson as Head of Art, Mr Puxty to Business Studies, Miss Bell as Lead Practitioner in English and Dr Oguntoyinbo in Chemistry. Mr S Gardner will be taking some Year 11 History classes.

We had a very successful Charity Day on the penultimate day of term with the inaugural Tug of War House competitions being a highlight for spectators. I am pleased to say that this term we have raised £3,379.66.

I wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in January; a reminder that the school day starts at 8.40am and finishes at 3.20pm. I have also had to move the Parent Council meeting to Thursday 23rd January as the earlier date clashed with an important school meeting.

Yours sincerely

S. Gardner
Mr S Gardner
Principal