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Dear families

Welcome to Term 4 and the first signs of Spring are on the way. The sun is finally shining, we hope you have had a restful break and are ready for a busy new term.

A huge thank you to our colleagues who took a group of Year 10s skiing in Austria last week – it was a resounding success, and our students have been given lots of praise for both their skiing and their conduct. Well done to them! We have really appreciated the lovely comments received thanking the staff team and we have shared these.

Year 11s have begun their final set of mock examinations and attendance, punctuality and conduct has been excellent – they are setting themselves up well for the final run in to the GCSE season.

Thank you to all the families that took the time to complete the **Parent Survey** that we sent to you last term. Tewkesbury Academy currently has 1,109 students on roll and had 220 responses to our survey, which represents a response rate of just under 20%. I thought you would appreciate receiving a summary of our learning from the survey, to receive some follow-up information, and to hear some of the outcomes and ideas about next steps.

I am pleased to share that the majority of our students are enjoying a positive time at Tewkesbury Academy – almost 60% of respondents said their child is happy at school, and nearly three quarters said their child feels safe here.

The majority of respondents said their child had not experienced bullying. Less than one third of respondents said bullying had been an issue – and nearly half of them said they had been happy with how the school had dealt with the issue.

Most parents who raised any concerns with the school about other issues said they were happy it had been dealt with effectively.

However, the survey also showed us that there are improvements we can make. For example, the majority of respondents said they would like to know more about what their child is learning and how well they are achieving, and we know too that respondents would like to see greater focus on support for the wider personal development of our children.

Parents would also welcome more information and understanding about approaches to anti-bullying, behaviour management and mental health support.

We value this input from our families and have already begun acting to address these issues.

To support some **next steps** please find following some links I hope you will find useful:

What will my child be learning during the year? <https://tewkesburyacademy.clf.uk/content/curriculum-overview/subject-information/>



Working in partnership with



What extra-curricular activities can my child take part in?

<https://tewkesburyacademy.clf.uk/content/curriculum-overview/extra-curricular-activities/>

What is the best way to contact the school about my child?

<https://tewkesburyacademy.clf.uk/policy/communications-policy/>

The areas we will be keenly focusing on over the coming months will be as follows:

- Anti-bullying
- SEND support
- Mental health support
- Behaviour management

There have been great improvements in these areas over the past few years and we still have more to do – the job is never done. We will be hosting sessions for parents here in school throughout March and April linked to these topics. Look out for invitations in the coming weeks.

If you need any support, please get in touch with the year team so we can work together to overcome any barriers.

Here's to a successful Spring term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "K McGillicuddy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen McGillicuddy
Principal