

**KS3 Parent Information Advice and Guidance Evening
11 October 2016**

Present: Dr Bassford (RPB) – Deputy Head
Miss Humphries (AXH) – KS3 Learning Manager
Mrs Loft (SJL) – Year 9 Pastoral Manager

AXH welcomed Year 7, 8 and 9 parents to the meeting and then introduced CT, Secretary of the Friends of Hardenhuish School (FOHS).

CT explained that FOHS hold events throughout the year to raise money to buy ‘extras’ for the school. The next event is the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3 December. She asked that parents think about donating a raffle prize, perhaps from the company they work for and said that either products or experiences would be great prizes. Raffle tickets are sold on WisePay and on the day so that all parents have a chance of buying them even if they cannot attend the fayre. The FOHS Annual General Meeting is on 9 November in the open area of T Centre from 7 pm – parents were asked to consider coming along to support this and also think about joining the committee, as several long standing members are leaving.

AXH thanked CT and introduced RPB who gave a presentation regarding Curriculum and Assessment reform in Years 7, 8 and 9 – please refer to the presentation on the website under Information/Other Information and either Year 7, 8 or 9 letters for details.

Salient points:-

- Previous system deemed too broad and was a ‘best fit’ approach which didn’t pick out particular skills or highlight deficiencies.
- GCSEs will be graded 1-9.
- There will be a finer grading system at GCSE for higher grades.
- Pupils will need to achieve grade 5 at GCSE and will re-sit until they achieve it.
- Schools were able to develop their own assessment system and Hardenhuish has done this, ensuring pupils will be GCSE ready, and using the 1-9 grade system.
- Pupils’ progress isn’t always a smooth curve, there will be fluctuations and this is normal.
- Pupils will be given an end of Year 9 grade – this is not pre-determining their GCSE grades and all pupils will be encouraged to aim higher.
- Progress maps for each subject will be available on the website so that parents and pupils can see what they could do to improve.
- Reports out in November will be based on the new 1-9 system.

RPB thanked parents for attending and said that if there were any questions then AXH, SJL or himself would be happy to answer after the meeting.