



Bexley Grammar School

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A Specialist Language College and
IB World School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year! I trust you all had an enjoyable break.

I write to explain the challenging start we had today and to reassure you that we are nearly back to normal.

You may remember that we had a loss of electrical power to the site on that first day of snow last term. Our electricians and site staff nursed us to the holiday but it became clear that the problem was in our substation as power arrives to the site. To cut a long story short, a major component in the substation had to be replaced yesterday in an emergency call out to enable the school to open today. This was successful (just after midnight!) but there were some residual effects on the school network and phone system. These were all restored by mid morning and we are now operating normally again with confidence that the power issue has been resolved. We are warm, dry and fully operational.

However, a separate, unrelated issue, stopped the gas supply to the canteen this morning. This is the result of a safety mechanism which is implemented if the kitchen extractor fans on the roof fail. We were unable to provide hot food today without gas to the ovens or hobs and will be unable to do so until we can repair or replace the fans. This is in hand but I do not have a definitive date for the restoration of normal canteen services. We will continue to provide cold food in the interim but please be aware that we may not be able to cater for all dietary requirements at this time. You may wish to provide your child with additional alternatives until normal service is resumed.

You may also be aware that the order in which year groups are invited for lunch change this term (to make it fair on everyone over the course of the school year).

Best wishes,

Steve Elphick