



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

Friday 14th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Is today the coldest of the year so far? It certainly felt chilly this morning and the ice is still glistening on the roof of the Art block outside my office window. Cold, crisp and clear; my favourite kind of weather which lets you know that Christmas is just around the corner.

The cold conditions this week did not stop our Year 7 rugby heroes from delivering yet another brilliant performance. This extremely talented bunch of students, who are sending ripples through the changing rooms and across the pitches of the county, delivered a 35-15 win against their opponents Barnwood Park. I really enjoyed joining the parents on the side line to cheer our students on and was impressed by the dynamics of the team. A fantastic combination of strength, stamina, speed and skill all glued together with a relentless desire to win keep Henley Bank High School at the top of table and remain undefeated. I invite all parents, carers and community members to come and support our players in all sports at our home fixtures. It would be great to see you and I know just how much the children would love it.

Our Year 11 students completed the official assessment for Unit 1 of their Finance qualification this week. Delivered through the London Institute of Banking and Finance, by our talented Mr Phelps, our students have achieved tremendous outcomes in the first of three units with record numbers adding an A`s and A*`s to their CVs already. The students have shown real personal investment in this qualification that was originally initiated based upon feedback from parents and carers. The course exposes students to the demands of both business and personal finance management and through its successful completion, will greatly increase their ability to effectively navigate their own financial landscapes for years to come.

I imagine, with great sadness, that almost everybody who is reading this letter has lost someone dear to them to cancer. Today we offered our support to the fight against cancer. The Race for Life has been a real success, and despite the cold conditions it was incredible to see so many students doing their bit for charity. Twelve laps around our sports field, which is approximately 5km, is no easy feat with some students running even further. The students have been wearing their finisher's medals with pride. I'd like to thank Mrs Cuke for organising this great event I look forward to reporting next week how much money has been raised for this great cause.

Our Executive Headteacher, Mr Ben Parnell, visited us this week and was delighted with what he described as another shift in the right direction for our school. He was extremely complimentary at how far he feels the school has come as we approach our one year anniversary and is always lifted by the gains that he experiences during each visit. These gains would not be possible without the collaboration of staff, students, parents and carers and our wider community.

Finally, to end on another celebration, Maisie Grinnell of Year 11 successfully completed the Initial Volunteer Police Cadet Training last week and was awarded the prestigious Cadet of the Year award for her dedication to Gloucestershire Constabulary. Well done Maisie, we are really proud of you!

I hope that this weekend is a great one for you all.

Kind regards,

Mr B. Nash

