



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL



Friday 21st December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

A great week draws a brilliant term and Henley Bank High School's first year to a close. What an incredible year it has been. To do justice to every milestone and achievement in words I would still be writing well into the New Year so I just thought I'd summarise a few of the highlights:

- ✦ Disruption free classrooms – Students and staff are thriving in our classrooms. Purposeful, engaging and inspiring environments where teachers teach and students learn are having an incredibly positive impact on the learning outcomes of our students. Most importantly, successful students are happy students and so many have commented that they are enjoying learning so much more and that their confidence is boosting daily.
- ✦ Roll call – very few schools nationally can boast having their entire student population in the same place at the same time every morning. This calm start to the day has ensured that all students are welcomed to school every morning and supported in getting ready for a successful day's learning. I'm not sure if any of the 'Number 1's' played on Classic FM in the morning have made it to our student's playlists but I'm sure I've started to see some rhythmical swaying of heads.
- ✦ Tutor Time Reading Programme and DEAR Time – reading is the one thing that can separate the successful from the not so. In total, over 80 different novels have been read from cover to cover by our students since January 3rd 2018. The result has been an incredible shift in the reading ages of many of our students which has in turn greatly increased their access to and enjoyment of learning. Over thirty students have increased their reading ages by over three years in just 4 terms with a generous handful rising by over five years. The impact of this on the lives of our students is an investment that will reward them for a lifetime.
- ✦ Mobile phone ban – mobile phones are proving to be the blight on the academic and social development of children in schools world-wide and are being strongly linked to the decline of mental health. Not at our school. Our students have embraced this expectation and the result has seen a significant shift in culture from students locked into their screens to ones who love to talk and engage positively with each other. The result has seen a marked increase in academic focus, rapidly increased oracy skills and a marked decrease in the number of cases of bullying through the medium of social media. I feel that this has been one of our greatest cultural triumphs and one that other local secondary schools are now adopting.
- ✦ Implementation of new uniform that is worn with pride – Having visited many schools in the county I can honestly state that our students are the best dressed in town and beyond. First impressions do count and we can rest assured that, in an interview room, a Henley Bank High School student will stand out from the crowd immediately.
- ✦ Year 11 GCSE Support Strategy – Our Year 11 students are marvellous individuals and have taken full advantage of the depth and breadth of support that we offer them in preparation for their GCSEs. I am proud that at Henley Bank High School it is fashionable to work hard and as such, classrooms are buzzing zones of progress, Period 6 is thriving and the engagement with home revision tasks is higher than ever. The personal investment in their own success has been a joy to observe. The recent Pre Public Examinations have returned staggering results which I look forward to sharing with you in the New Year.
- ✦ Opportunities to develop strength of character are flourishing at Henley Bank High School. Undefeated sports teams, student leadership groups, the best provision of The Arts that I have seen in my career to date are colliding to support the growth of confidence, creativity and positive mind-set in our students. The Snowcase show yesterday saw some hidden talents thrust into the spotlight. Incredible to see.

The last two years have been the best in my life so far. Getting married, becoming a father and the Headteacher of your children are a trilogy of events that combine to make me among the proudest in the world. I thank our staff, your children and you for your support, without which, our accomplishments at our wonderful school would not be possible.

I wish you all a beautiful Christmas with family and friends and a successful and happy 2019.

Mr B. Nash



Head of School: Bradley Nash
Henley Bank High School, Mill Lane, Brockworth GL3 4QF
An academy in The Greenshaw Learning Trust: Company no. 7633694
tel: 01452 863372 email: admin@henleybankhighschool.co.uk