



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

Friday 10th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

May I start by wishing you all a very happy and successful 2019. I hope that you all enjoyed fantastic Christmases and New Year celebrations with the people that matter most to you. I had an absolutely wonderful time celebrating with my family in Dorset and did on occasion have to rescue little Jack a few times from all the hazardous situations that are, to the experienced parent no doubt inevitable, associated with the combination of Christmas trees and 18 month old children. Regardless of what was revealed under layers of wrapping paper his favourite toy was the colander and wooden spoon that have been in my cupboards for years but not used by an 18 month old for fencing against his toy dog Scottie! I have been assured by many that next year he will "get it" and as a father I will have to increase my festive creativity by a long-shot. All recommendations received gratefully.

I want to thank you for your feedback on our most recent Academic Review Events. The feedback and supporting comments are so overwhelmingly positive and were a real fuel of support for our staff. We are always looking to improve what we do at Henley Bank High School and we greatly appreciate your time taken to fill out our forms at the events. Your comments really help to steer our journey.

On Monday our entire teaching and support staff body attended our Trust-wide INSET day which was hosted by Yate Academy. The day was incredibly productive, bringing together the experience and creativity of all staff from the Trust to design our World-class curriculum that will be developed over the course of the year. I can't imagine that many other Trusts in the country spent their INSET in such intense and exciting collaboration experienced by our staff this week. Our curriculum promises to be broad, balanced and challenging, equipping our students for the exciting opportunities of the future.

It was great to see your children on Tuesday. They arrived spritely and enthusiastic despite the cold snap we have experienced this week. It was my pleasure to announce Mr Barker as the new head of year 9 as Mrs Redford focusses on preparing to become an absolutely brilliant mummy. I want to thank her publically for the wonderful work she has done as Head of Year 9 and 10. She is an absolute asset to our students. Mr Barker has a brilliant relationship with our students and I know that he will build further upon the great work done by Mrs Redford. Mr Foran takes the mantle of Head of Year 10 and will use his experience as a talented Head of Year 11 to prepare his students for their GCSE year next year.

Our Year 11 musicians completed their GCSE Music exam yesterday and it was great to see so many positive faces leaving The Mill afterwards. The same feelings of positivity were present on the faces of both Year 10 and 11 students who completed their Sports Studies exams today. At Henley Bank High School we don't wish our students 'Good Luck' before examinations. Instead we encourage them to enjoy the experience as hard work and commitment remove the need for luck. Well done to all and I wish you all the best for the results.

We rewarded the children for a brilliant first week back with hot chocolates and marshmallows in the quad today which again appeared to go down very well.

I look forward to writing to you next week and until then I wish you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mr B. Nash