



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

23rd March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been great watching and listening to the students` and visitors` reactions to fresher looking reception and stairwell areas of the main school building. Beautiful looking stadiums do not create winning teams but this said, our winning team certainly deserved to tread successful footsteps in a brighter, well-presented arena that hadn't been touched for at least 13 years! It looks and feels so much better than before but it has led to me becoming slightly ridiculous in my focus on the wiping of feet as our wonderful guests arrive. An obsession I'm sure to get over in due course I'm sure!

Our visitor numbers have flown through the roof and our students and staff never fail to impress those both committed to joining our fantastic journey and also those just curiously excited. The support we are gathering is monumental and our momentum continues to build.

I had the pleasure of attending the Gloucestershire Association of Secondary Headteachers this week which gave me the opportunity to commence the formation of strong working relationships with all head teachers across the county. Our collaboration will ensure that value is added to our vision. It was great to hear that word has travelled to every corner and crevice of Gloucestershire and beyond that Henley Bank High School is making on its way to the top.

It was great to see some of our parents at our Exam Preparation evening that was held yesterday for our year 11 students. This focussed on providing tips and hints for revision as well as showing students and parents how to manage the stress that is inevitably associated with the exam period. If any parents were unable to make this evening we will be sending the presentation out early next week via Parentmail. Please contact Ms Williams via email on rwilliams@henleybankhighschool.co.uk if you attended and have any questions that have arisen since the event. Our staff have been busy preparing for our Year 11 Easter Revision conference that will commence the week beginning 9th April. We are looking forward to giving our students their timetables on Monday.

We had the pleasure earlier this week of welcoming Greenshaw Learning Trust's Head of Literacy and Language, Josie Mingay to the School. She has supported us this week with the year 11 English speaking & listening exams as well as delivering some incredibly positive feedback about our Tutor Time Reading Programme. We look forward to seeing the impact of our programme next half term. Regardless of the impressive data that is being produced supporting the rapid increase in reading abilities, the sheer enjoyment that our students are getting from their reading is tremendous. I wish I had been exposed to such texts in this way when I was younger.

As an end of term treat, we are hosting our first termly 'Henley Bank Cinema Club' showing the latest release Paddington 2 on Tuesday 27th March in The Mill. Our premiere event will be free of charge with a complimentary hot dog or popcorn and a drink. Students can arrive from 4.00pm with the film due to start at 4.30pm. This will be the first of many student events we will be organising for outside of school hours.

I'm looking forward to next week, the last week of the first full term of Henley Bank High School before Easter, and in the meantime I wish you all a fantastic weekend with friends and family.

Yours sincerely

Mr B. Nash
Head of School