



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

4th May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

This week marked the start of the GCSE examination period for our Year 11 students with Art taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Despite the obvious pressure associated with examinations, the students performed brilliantly and I was able to sneak a peek at some of the work produced at the end of the session. As somebody who struggles to draw stick men and women I was officially amazed and in awe of the work produced by our students. I am going to explore the potential to organise an exhibition of this work to showcase their work before they take their masterpieces home with them.

The 14th of May marks the start of the bulk of the rest of the GCSE examinations which finish on Tuesday 19th June. It has been great observing our year 11 students getting stuck into the morning Mathematics sessions and the bespoke Period 6 Support Programme.

The entrepreneurial streak in many of our students has been unleashed this week as cake sales and car washes have been organised to fund various student activities such as the Year 11 Prom and a field trip for our year 7 to 10 students to the World War One battlefields in France and Belgium. As a previous visitor myself I am excited that our students are getting the opportunity to visit both Ypres and The Somme, two places that are courageously but also heartbreakingly engrained in the history of Britain.

“He’s gone, and all our plans
Are useless indeed.
We’ll walk no more on Cotswolds
Where the sheep feed
Quietly and take no heed.....”

Exert from *To His Love*, by Ivor Gurney.

Our dedication to appoint new talent to add even more strength to our teaching staff continued this week as we received the details of two Teach First student teachers that will join our march from September. This is the first time that Teach First have joined forces with Henley Bank High School which is a really exciting checkpoint in our history. Graduating from some of the UKs finest Universities with highly awarded degrees, Teach First candidates have an impressive track record of adding depth and breadth to the subject areas that they join.

Outside of the school gates it gives me great pleasure to congratulate year 8 students, Max Knight and Jake Pinkney as they became Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire champions winning the football county cup 5-0 with their team mates of Gala Wilton under 13`s. They were extremely proud to tell me (repeatedly) that they hadn’t conceded a goal throughout the entire competition. We wish the two boys and Gala Wilton all the best in the Premiership or Bundesliga next season!

Again, if any of our rising stars are shining brightly on pitches, on stages, in pools or around tracks in their own time I would love to hear about it. Please email your stories to me at bnash@henleybankhighschool.co.uk.

The weather this week is looking promising and I can almost smell the smoke of burning BBQ coals.

Wherever you are this long weekend, I wish you all the best.

Kindest regards,

Mr B. Nash
Head of School