



HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

25th May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy week for our year 11 students as the exam season gathers full steam. They have sat many exams this week including Engineering, the first Geography paper, the second Science and first Mathematics papers and the second English Literature paper. Interwoven by Portuguese, Latin, Persian and Italian exams the week I have no doubt that many year 11 students will be happy that the week is over and look forward to at least one weekends rest as they dedicate their half term to revision and the success in the exams still to come. My grandfather used to say "harder life now, easier life later lad" and with relation to a whole hearted commitment to study I couldn't agree more. Many teachers have stepped up to support their students over the half term and I look forward to seeing my own Mathematics class on Tuesday of next week. I'd like to extend my thanks to the families of my staff who are giving their own time so willingly during this half term in support of our student's GCSE achievements. Sacrifices of such precious time are ultimately appreciated.

This week we launched our Henley Bank's Got Talent competition which is set to showcase some of our students hidden talents. Having had many responses from parents and carers about their little stars at home I am excited to start the audition process after half term that is set to deliver stage prowess in a range of different skills. If your son, daughter or friend is a budding singer, actor, musician, comedian, dancer or magician please urge them to get an audition slip from our reception. Whatever their hidden talent we really want to unleash it. Who knows we might have the next X-factor or BGT winner right under our noses! It would be a crime to let such talent lay dormant so please support them and us to release their true potential. Following a series of auditions we will organise the live final where the best acts will go head to head in front of their fans, friends and family. The date of this will confirmed in future letters.

This week we managed to appoint another absolute gem to our Teaching and Leadership team for September. It is with great excitement that I welcome Darren Barton, Mathematics extraordinaire, Teaching and Learning development maestro and general all round great guy. Darren's passion for Mathematics, his extremely high standards and expectations and his attention to detail will add serious value to our Mathematics department and learning experiences of our students.

Following our continued success in the recruitment of awesome new staff, I had the pleasure of visiting both Yate Academy in Bristol and Five Acres in Coleford this week to support them in their recruitment drive. They too have secured some fantastic appointments which will support their own journeys to greatness. It also reminds me of just how important and invaluable and privileged we are at Henley Bank High School in being part of such collaborative trust as the expertise of staff across the schools directly add value to our own mission. We are supported weekly by staff from other schools and share practices and experiences that feed directly into the learning experiences that our students have in the classrooms.

Finally I would like to wish all staff and students a well-deserved half term break. I hope that the sun comes again soon to allow you to make the most of any plans you may have with family and friends.

Thank you for your support throughout another successful half term.

Kindest regards,

Mr B. Nash
Head of School