



# HENLEY BANK HIGH SCHOOL

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Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm writing this as the wind howls outside my office window hurling with it bullets of rain that look as though they won't stop firing for some time. I hope that it passes quickly so that we can enjoy a rain free weekend.

Poor weather hasn't affected play at Henley Bank High School and of course we have plenty to celebrate this week.

In last Friday's letter I sent our best wishes to the year 9 dynamic duo, Jess and Mari Botas who, last weekend, competed in the World Taekwondo and Kick Boxing Championship. I was so thrilled to see the girls on Monday wearing their medals. Jess and Mari, incredibly talented identical twins, actually competed against each other in the sparring final so Gold and Silver were their rewards in what must have been one of the closest competitions in the history of the sport. Jess won the gold medal and Mari the Silver. Two of our fantastic students on the podium of a world title together. Jess went on to also win Bronze in the pattern event. It was a wonderful feeling sharing the news during Monday's roll call that we have World Champions in our community. Well done girls, we are super proud of you.

The year 11's returned to school on Monday beaming about their trip to London where they watched the multi-award winning production, An Inspector Calls. Being able to hear, feel and see the play which is studied as part of their English GCSE, will certainly give them the edge when it comes to their exams later in the year. Many had never experienced live theatre and it was an invaluable opportunity for all to see such a great piece of Performing Art on the magnificent stage of The New Wimbledon Theatre. Next week marks another great night as we travel back to London to the famous Barbican Theatre to watch Macbeth. One of Shakespeare's greatest pieces promises to be a brilliant show.

Performing Arts and History appear to have been the order of the week as today we welcomed Quantum Theatre to our stage to deliver "The Country Needs You", a performance celebrating the centenary of World War One. It was wonderful to welcome 130 students from Brockworth and Birdlip primary schools to Henley Bank High School to share the brilliant experience. I'm sure that tales of bravery and courage will fuel many breakfast and dinnertime conversations across Gloucestershire over the weekend. A massive thank you to Mrs Benfield and Mrs Rawlings for organising this great event.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome another new member of staff to our wonderful team this week. Helena Guy joins our brilliant Mathematics department after half term. Mrs Guy will start a few days after the half term break as she will be spending the week scaling India's highest mountains for charity. Such energy, commitment and determination is exactly what we wish to surround our students with and we all wish her a warm welcome to the family and best wishes for what promises to be a truly remarkable journey in India. Another magical journey awaits her upon her return.

On the subject of recruitment, we are seeking a committed caretaker to join our site management team. As the school goes from strength to strength so too do the needs of our facilities staff. If you know the perfect candidate for this great full-time opportunity, please get in touch with my PA, Faye Cutler, at [fcutler@henleybankhighschool.co.uk](mailto:fcutler@henleybankhighschool.co.uk) for more details.

Wishing you all a great, and hopefully dry, weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr B. Nash