



15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear parents and carers

## **Winter Weather**

Thank you to all parents, students and staff for coping so well with the difficult weather conditions this week. There was no alternative to closure on Monday and I would like to pay tribute to our site team who worked tirelessly to ensure that pathways were clear and that the school was safe to access on Tuesday. This was an enormous undertaking and I know was greatly valued by staff and students alike.

Thank you also to students for their excellent and considerate behaviour in the snow and to parents for coping with difficult conditions when picking up and dropping off their children at school. Great testament to the way in which we all work as an effective team as part of the Wollaston school community.

## **OAP Christmas Party 2017**

I was delighted to attend the annual Christmas party which was held on Thursday. 95 people attended and were treated to some fabulous food prepared by our staff and students. First-class entertainment was also provided by the Performing Arts faculty, including dance, carols and drama. Members of the Sixth Form worked with skill and maturity in ensuring the smooth running of the event and they were a credit to the school. I also had the opportunity to call a game of bingo to an enthusiastic and highly competitive audience! There was also visit from Santa himself to round off the party in traditional style.

Feedback from our guests was absolutely wonderful and as a school we are delighted to host this incredibly special community event at Christmas.

There are far too many staff and students to thank individually, every single person involved should be enormously proud for bringing so much joy and warmth to our guests. Mrs Redfern does deserve a special mention for organising such an amazing and ambitious event.

## **Christmas Music Concert**

Not even the weather could stop our Christmas Music Concert - an unstoppable feat of festive entertainment. Although Monday's performance had to be rescheduled to Thursday evening, the large audience on both evenings were treated to an incredible variety of excellent music. The sheer range of styles, genres and performers were inspiring to watch; from big bands to soloists; from Bob the Builder to Beethoven, we were treated to the quite exceptional talents of our students. Thank you to Mrs Hollis-Brown and all of the staff and students who made this such an incredible concert.

## **Forthcoming Events**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the following important dates for the Spring Term 2018:

- **Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018** - School re-opens
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018** – Year 10 Parents’ Evening
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018** - Year 9 Options Evening

Finally, I would like to formally thank all members of the Wollaston School community for making my first term here such a positive, warm and welcoming experience. I have genuinely never experienced such a friendly school and it is a great privilege to lead Wollaston at this exciting time.

I wish all of our students, staff and parents are very Happy Christmas and a restful and refreshing holiday once we finish on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back in January and starting another term with the same purpose and positivity.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you as always for your support of Wollaston School. We are absolutely committed to providing the highest standards of education possible and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via email on [office@wollaston-school.net](mailto:office@wollaston-school.net).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Birkett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'J' and 'B'.

**Mr James Birkett**  
**Headteacher**