



23rd February 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Rag week 2018

Thank you to all Sixth Formers, students, staff and parents who donated and contributed to our amazing fundraising week prior to half term. I am pleased to announce that to date we have already raised £3,693.47. This is an amazing amount of money for good causes and the just giving page will remain open for a further two weeks if there are any last-minute donations: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wollaston-school.

Careers advice at Wollaston

As many parents will be aware, we are committed to providing appropriate guidance to students as they contemplate the next steps in their education or training. In addition to providing information regarding Higher Education, we also promote vocational and apprenticeship pathways to meet a growing need in this area. We are delighted that over 35 Sixth Formers attended a presentation regarding degree level apprenticeships at Unilever, which was led by a member of their staff who had followed this route themselves.

Over half term, we were delighted to learn that a number of our students have secured places in their chosen vocations, once they have completed their courses at Wollaston. These include a student who has been accepted at Derby Basketball Academy, another who will begin a Design Apprenticeship, one who is in the recruitment process for a Project Management Degree Apprenticeship with Mercedes-Benz and a fourth student who has secured an apprenticeship with NT Assure in Wellingborough. Congratulations to all of the students concerned. It is wonderful to consider the great careers and educational achievements that Wollaston students go on to enjoy. We are fortunate to have the services of Mr Myers, who in addition to teaching in humanities, leads our careers information and guidance. If parents would like more information, please contact: b.myers@wollaston-school.net

Young Physicists

As part of Wollaston School's well-established link with the Ogden Trust (an organisation dedicated to the promoting of teaching and learning of physics), a number of Year 10 and 11 students attended an event in Wellingborough on Wednesday evening. Over 30 Wollaston students and their parents listened to talks from:

- Two astrophysics PhD students;
- An engineer from Ilmour Engineering Ltd, who make components for Indy Car & Formula One racing cars;
- An accountant from Barclaycard, who has used his physics skills within the financial sector;
- An admissions tutor from Nottingham University who outlined the skills and requirements for the degree study of physics at university.

The teachers who attended were very proud to see so many of our students there, keen and interested to learn about just where a career in the sciences could take them. Thank you to Dr Sheldrick for organising the event and congratulations to all who attended.

Parents' Evenings

We have seen significant improvement in attendance levels at our Parents' Evenings events during this academic year. We are delighted that both the Year 9 and Year 10 Parents' Evenings attracted an attendance

rate of over 90%. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss progress with parents, as all of the available educational research indicates that student learning is most effective when schools and parents work together towards a common goal. Thank you to all for your support and we look forward to meeting parents of students in Year 12 on 8th March 2018, and at the Year 8 Parents' Evening on 22nd March 2018.

Indoor Athletics Tournament

On Tuesday 20th February, 14 Year 8 students took part in an indoor schools games event. Although we did not manage to gain a podium place on this occasion, Mr Roberts was incredibly complimentary about the way in which our athletes performed in their competitions and was particularly proud of the way in which every single student conducted themselves as a great ambassador for Wollaston School. Congratulations to all who took part and the picture of the team can be found on the school website.

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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'James Birkett' in a cursive style.

Mr James Birkett
Headteacher