



28th September 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Open Evening 2018

My sincere thanks to all members of the school community for a highly successful Open Evening for prospective Year 6 students and their parents. Following the day time school tours, which continue next week, we will have shown over 1000 visitors around our wonderful school. Feedback so far has been enormously positive, with many highlighting the incredible role our students play as ambassadors for the school. It is both humbling and inspiring to see Wollaston through the eyes of people new to our school and the incredible education we provide here. Perhaps the quote which encapsulates this most effectively was from a Year 6 parent who said: *"My daughter used to want to go to Hogwarts, now she wants to come to Wollaston!"*

Thank you to everyone for their hard work and time in making our prospective parents and students feel so welcome and inspired. We have a school community to be very proud of.

Academy Update

As parents will be aware, we have now had formal approval from the Department for Education (DfE) to establish the Nene Valley Partnership, a multi-Academy trust initially comprising of Wollaston School, Irchester Community Primary School and Bozeat Community Primary School. We are delighted that the DfE have approved our vision for local educational excellence and are already working to bring this vision to reality.

During October, our Chair of Governors (Mr Mike Thomas), will run a formal consultation with parents, students, staff and the local community. This is an opportunity for anyone to raise any thoughts, concerns or questions prior to the formal conversion. Mr Thomas will send out a letter next week to explain the process and proposal with accompanying information and FAQs. There will be a dedicated email address for all responses to be collated and governors will arrange a drop in evening if anyone has any questions or thoughts that they would like to explore in person.

German Exchange 2018

It has been a great pleasure to welcome German exchange staff and students from the Max-Planck Gymnasium to Wollaston School over the past week. This programme is part of the well-established Projekt Planck programme and students across the school have made our visitors feel very welcome. Staff and students from the Modern Foreign Languages department have organised a range of collaborative activities from trips to Oxford, to experiencing a wonderful school day at Wollaston!

Thank you to all involved for making this such a success.

War Horse Theatre Trip

Almost 130 students from the Performing Arts faculty visited Milton Keynes Theatre to watch the National Theatre's acclaimed production of War Horse directed by Tom Morris. Students and staff enjoyed the incredible production and I know many have been inspired to use some of the dramatic techniques on display, in their own curricular and extra-curricular work.

I would also like to congratulate our students on their immaculate behaviour and conduct throughout the visit. Several members of staff were approached by members of the public to comment on how impressed they were with our students and the school. Thank you to all for being such great ambassadors for Wollaston School.

Thank you as always for your support Wollaston School. 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 that reads "James Birkett". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "James" and "Birkett" being capitalized and prominent.

Mr James Birkett
Headteacher