



5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear parents and carers,

## **Trips and visits**

Students and staff have enjoyed a number of highly successful trips and visits during the last week. Firstly, congratulations to our Year 7 team and their tutors for a wonderful residential trip to Staffordshire. I know that students greatly enjoyed their experience and Mr Beeby, Deputy Headteacher and trip leader said, *'The experience was a great opportunity to show off their teamwork skills in a range of activities. Students overcame personal fears to work at height, learned new skills such as fire lighting or completed challenges as part of a team. Students who did not attend enjoyed a two day collapsed timetable in school, again with a focus on teambuilding. Students enjoyed competitive team games, tower building, a blindfolded communication game and an assault course. We now hope that Year 7 put these important skills to good use in school'*.

On Thursday, a group of Year 9 students travelled to Cambridge to enjoy a day of learning the history of Women in Computing and meeting women who currently work in the Technology and Computing Industry. The aim is to encourage greater female representation in the Technology Industry and here at Wollaston, we are proud that growing numbers of girls do follow STEM (Science, Technology and Maths) at both GCSE and A Level, a trend that we wish to further build on in the future.

Thank you to Mr Foster and Mrs Shelton for organising the visit and to all the students who represented Wollaston School with such enthusiasm and commitment.

## **Safe Travel to and from School**

Parents will be aware that we issued an information email following reports of a white van attempting to engage students in conversation in Irchester. We have reported this to the police and as a precaution, encourage students to be vigilant on their journeys to and from school. Where possible, we advise that students walk home in small groups or pairs after being dropped off from their buses. For those students who walk home directly from the school gates, there are always duty staff around the school site, and we would of course encourage students to follow the same advice regarding not walking alone where it is possible.

We will of course notify parents if any further reports or incidents are reported, and please do contact the school if you have any concerns.

## **Splendid Production Performance at Wollaston**

The Performing Arts faculty were proud to host an excellent performance from Splendid Productions, as well as a subsequent workshop to learn about the skill and strategies deployed in the performance.

Students from Years 9-13 participated with a particular focus on the examination groups at GCSE and A-Level. Students described the experience as thought provoking, inspiring and naturally.....Splendid!

Thank you to Mrs Goodge and the Performing Arts team for arranging this event.

## **Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening**

Formal notice that the Year 7 Tutor Evening will take place on **17<sup>th</sup> October 2018** at **4.00pm**.

This is an opportunity for parents and students to discuss their first half term at Wollaston, celebrate achievements and deal with any questions or concerns which may have arisen. Please note this is not the academic parental consultation evening with all subject tutors, which will follow in May 2019. However, this is an important date in the Year 7 calendar to ensure that all students have settled in well and are ready to achieve great things at Wollaston School. Mr Beeby, Deputy Headteacher, and Mr Rees, Head of Year 7, will also be on hand to deal with any issues which cannot immediately be addressed by form tutors.

## **Employment Opportunities at Wollaston**

As a significant local employer of over 200 staff, just a reminder to parents and the wider school community, that in addition to local and national recruitment advertisement, we always list vacancies on our school website. These can be found under '**About our School > Vacancies**' and include listings for teaching and support staff positions. Many of our talented and wonderful team of staff are parents or members of the local community, so if you may be interested to learn of job opportunities available, please see the website!

Thank you as always for your support of 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](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 initial 'J'.

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