



20th September 2019

Dear parents and carers,

We have enjoyed another excellent week of work Wollaston School and thank you for your support with ensuring great attendance, punctuality, uniform and homework completion. A successful education is always accomplished through working in partnership with students and families - and this approach is thriving at Wollaston School, and proving very successful for our students.

Year 12 Meet the Mentor Evening

Thank you to all parents, students and staff for their time on Thursday evening for a highly productive event at the very start of our students' Sixth Form education. Mr Mills, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form said of the evening *"It was lovely to see so many people joining us for the evening. We really like to make sure that we give both parents and students the opportunity to be fully engaged with the work that we do within the Sixth Form, and to feel like they can always approach us with any questions or queries. The mentor's role in this is vital and this event helped forge the relationships that will enable every student to thrive over the coming two years"*.

It is vital that students make a positive start to both their academic studies as well as making the most of the leadership and personal development opportunities which are and available throughout Years 12 and 13. We are delighted with the positive and diligent approach that our new Year 12 students have taken during the first few weeks, and it is an exciting time for our large, successful Sixth Form.

Independent study is of course a vital part of post-16 education, and we work hard to ensure that students have plenty of work to undertake, without them feeling overwhelmed. Our aim is that both the quality and difficulty of work should be stretching and challenging, but without stress. The mission for the Sixth Form is exactly the ethos we hold as a school, no pressure, but plenty of purpose!

If parents or students have questions about work for individual subjects, please contact the appropriate teacher. For more general Sixth Form queries please contact either Mr Mills, Head of Sixth Form on millst@wollaston-school.net, Miss Stone, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, stoned@wollaston-school.net or Mr Braham-Nicoll, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, brahamnicolls@wollaston-school.net.

Open Evening & Open Days 2019

A final reminder that we welcome prospective parents and students into our school over the next couple of weeks, most significantly for the Open Evening on **Thursday 26th September 2019**. We are very thankful for the massive amount of student volunteers that have put themselves forward to celebrate and promote Wollaston School. Thank you to parents for facilitating their arrival and departure on what I'm sure will be a busy evening.

Another key element of our calendar is the open day tours which take place this week and next. At Wollaston School, we are proud of what happens here, day in, day out, in every lesson and in every subject area. Parents and the children are shown around the school by current students, visiting lessons in order to catch an exciting glimpse of what life is like at Wollaston School. We do of course brief all students that their classes will receive visitors and we know from feedback from parents, students and staff, that seeing our school in action is where they really get a sense of the wonderful

and exciting community that is Wollaston School.

Projekt Planck German Exchange Visit

We are incredibly proud to once again welcome our German Exchange visitors from Bremen during next week. We will undertake a range of activities with students and staff as well as welcoming them to our school for a full day on Wednesday 25th September. The exchange programme is a well-established feature of life at Wollaston School and of course we enjoy a reciprocal visit to Germany on alternate years. This international partnership is an important and enriching part of our wider curriculum and a vital part of our high performing Modern Foreign Languages faculty.

Practice fire evacuation

We held our termly practice fire evacuation during this morning and this was completed in exemplary fashion. Students have been led over 'walk-through' procedures last week, and their conduct during the drill was excellent.

We appreciate the responsibility and self-discipline shown by students in all year groups. Obviously, we hope never to need these procedures in an emergency, but if they are required, every member of our community is ready and prepared.

All England Dance Final

The All England Dance Finals at High Wycombe took place over the summer, and I'm pleased to report that one of our students, Cole Dilley, was placed in the bronze medal position in the Senior Contemporary Solo category.

The World UDO Street Finals also took place in August, at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool. A number of past and present pupils from Wollaston School took part in two teams. I'm pleased to report that Cole Dilley, Edwin Cheng and Libby Garlick's team placed 5th overall in the world in the Over 18 Novice category, and the second team, consisting of Abi Jones, Lilly Moore and Beth Lawrence made it to the final 12 in the Under 16 Novice category.

Congratulations to all of our talented students.

Year 11 Destinations

Data collected by the school this week, shows that 98.3% of Year 11 leavers from the summer of 2019 are now in some form of education or training with an approved organisation. This very high figure is credit to the hard work and support of their families, school staff and many others in the local business and education community.

Thank you, as always for your support and cooperation in these matters and 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.

Yours sincerely,



Mr James Birkett
Headteacher