



4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear parents and carers,

## World Mental Health Day 2019

We are pleased to support World Mental Health Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019, as we know that awareness of, and dealing with mental health issues is an increasing priority for our children and families. Students who wish to, may wear a yellow t-shirt or accessory (but must remain in full school uniform aside from these items). We will also be selling yellow biscuits from the canteen on Thursday. Our aim here is twofold:

1. To raise awareness of mental health and demonstrate our support and care for each other. Students can sometimes feel worried or ashamed of talking about how they are feeling – and we want to promote a feeling of comfort and security about holding discussions and raising concerns for all members of our school community.
2. Secondly, if students would like to take part in wearing a yellow t-shirt or accessory, we are asking for a £1 donation to Young Minds - [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk). This is a charity specifically to support young people with promoting well-being and good mental health, and there are a range of excellent resources on their website for students, parents and professionals.

We appreciate the support from the whole school and wider community, and of course will continue to promote well-being and provide support to students in all of our work.

## School Admissions

A final thank you to all who have helped with our range of Open Days, Open Evening and activities for prospective parents. It is our students who really demonstrate the strength of a Wollaston education and we appreciate that hundreds of our students have volunteered to share their experiences and learning at Wollaston School. The deadline for applications to secondary schools is 5.00pm on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019. To apply, you can click on the following link which will take you directly to the page: <https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/secondary-school-places/Pages/how-to-apply-for-a-secondary-school-place.aspx> OR you can visit the website, which is [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk) and search for 'Secondary Schools Admissions' in the box on the right hand side.

## Forthcoming Events

We have now completed our first full month of the new academic year and we are pleased with the effort and application of all year groups, as we work to make 2019/20 the new 'best ever' for Wollaston School.

There are a number of crucial dates in the next few weeks to be aware of, and we greatly value parental participation and support for both our academic and pastoral events.

- **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019:** Year 10 Success at GCSE Evening – full details and how to book can be found on <https://wollastonschool.eventbrite.co.uk>.
- **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019:** Year 11 Parents' Evening / Subject Teacher Consultation
- **6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019:** Performing Arts Production – We Will Rock You – Booking details can be found on the school website.

It is probably also a good time to remind parents and families that this half term finishes on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019**, as the Friday is a staff Professional Development Day.

### Careers

Numerous careers events are publicised in school and it was great to get the following feedback from a year 11 student who took the trouble to travel to Cambridge to attend the recent Open Day at Adenbrookes Hospital. Our intrepid career seeker reported, *'The day was great because I saw how all the roles played a part in the work of the hospital. It was also a great opportunity to speak to the medical professionals. I also learnt that in terms of careers it is good to aim high, but also good to have a plan B.'*

### Attendance at School

We remain incredibly appreciative of parental support to ensure high levels great attendance at school. We prize this greatly, as we know that high levels of attendance translate directly into high levels of achievement.

Our school headline measure has been over 95% for the past 2 years, which is good, but we also believe that this could be improved further. Not for the benefit of our school statistics, but because we know that for individual students great learning and great achievement happens incrementally – every day counts!

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](mailto:office@wollaston-school.net).

Yours sincerely,



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