

Friday 18 October 2024

Autumn Half Term

Dear Parent/Carer,

Proud to belong

After a hugely successful half term, I wanted to contact you today to share some of the positive work and experiences our students have had this half term.

Reading Strategy

Before summer we informed you that when we return to school, we will be reading books together in form time with the whole year group reading the same book. We have been delighted with the impact this has had throughout the school. It really is a joy to walk around the school during morning registration, listening and watching so many young people and adults enjoying reading together. One member of staff commented about her year 11 class by saying "that I was reading with my form and I stopped on a cliff hanger in the book to end the session and all of the students said 'NO!' and wanted to carry on reading. They are really into it ". Hopefully this love of reading for our students, will last forever.

School Show

Thursday was the last performance of our school show, The Addams Family. I hope you have had the opportunity to attend this performance. Our students have been exceptional and the feedback we have had from primary schools, parents and other audience members has been incredible. I would like to thank the students and the dedicated, hardworking and talented staff involved in creating this production. The show is a real whole school community event involving over 80 students from year 7 to year 13 and several ex-students and friends of the school. Thanks again to everyone involved.





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Astro Turf

We were officially given the keys to our new Astro turf on Tuesday and were able to open it to students. Year 7 had the first official outing on our state-of-the-art 4G surface and it suited their skills as we are delighted to say they came out as tournament winners. They now go through to the next round. We will also be using it in a more recreational way by encouraging students to use it at dinner time. Around 100 students enjoyed their time on there at dinner yesterday. PE staff can't wait to get out there for PE lessons. What a great facility for the school and the community.



Sixth Form

We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year in Sixth Form. It feels like our year 12 students have been with us for a lot longer than just a few weeks. It has been lovely to see them settle so well and form new friendships. A huge thank you to year 13 who have made year 12 feel very welcome. As well as new friendships being formed, it is clear to see that the vast majority of our year 12 and 13 students are focused on their studies and committed to doing their very best – well done to them and thank you for the support that we know they get at home to make this happen. Next half term we have year 13 practice exams, first aid training for all of our students as well as many more exciting charity events. Have a restful half term as we look forward to returning at the end of October with full focus.

Finally, I wish all of our students and staff a happy and restful half term break. School reopens on Monday 28th October 2024 for all students.

Yours faithfully,

J Burnham Headteacher



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