



19th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy and productive start to the new academic year for staff and students at Wetherby High School with lots of different events and activities already taking place.

It has been a pleasure to see our students return looking smart and ready to learn, additionally a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 students whom have settled well into the routines at high school. We have also welcomed back many of last year's Year 11 students, returning as members of our Sixth Form.

The school saw superb results this summer and we are proud of each individual's achievement as well as the cohort of Year 13 and Year 11 students as a whole. Wetherby High School has seen record results this year with children exceeding ambitious targets. At GCSE 81% of students gained a 4+ in English and 76% at 4+ in maths, figures significantly exceeding national averages.

A quarter of all GCSE grades in English and maths were awarded at the highest levels of 7-9 – equivalent to A* and A grades in the new more challenging examination system. The vast majority of subjects exceeded national attainment levels, with Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Drama, Art and German seeing some of the highest pass rates and significant numbers attaining in the top 15%.

It is evident that the effort from all involved has assisted our students as they head off to further education, training and employment, supported by staff to ensure they access their preferred pathway. The school looks forward to continuing to support many of our students who are progressing to our sixth form.

Congratulations also to our Year 13 students on collecting their results and achieving greatly. Our students have set themselves on a pathway to further education accessing a wide range of courses at various universities for example University of Liverpool - Veterinary Science, Newcastle University- History and Manchester Metropolitan University- Fashion Art Direction and some students progressing into employment. The hard work applied paid off as 70% of all A Levels were awarded at A*-C, the students achieved 100% pass rate for BTECs and 51% of our students gained at least one A*-B Grade.

Our Sixth Form have started the year busily with an Information Evening providing details on all the courses and content. The Year 13 English students have been on a trip to Whitby to support their study of the Novel Dracula. The students also visited Bram Stoker's house and other locations in Whitby that appear in the book. Many Sixth Form students have also attended various careers talks including Barclay's Life Skills session, Feeding Britain's Future session by Future First and Armed forces Speakers.

Many students completed their Pre-Learning throughout the summer break and have been rewarded by Mr Grant with a prize draw shown on Wetherby TV. The lucky winners all won vouchers for The Trinity Shopping Centre. Targeting and Pre-Learning is available on the school website along with hand in deadline.

Large cohorts of students are actively taking up our offer of a wide range of Flexible Learning clubs during lunchtime and after school. This provides the students with the opportunity to try new activities and skills whilst students that attend also receive E-Praise points and recognition.

Year 9 students have taken part in an Enterprise day with Ahead Partnership and volunteers from local companies. The students had to create, plan and market a hotel of the future that appealed to different target audiences they then presented this to a panel of judges. The day was aimed to support with their employability skills, teamwork and creativity.

Autumn half term 1 has also seen our Year 8 students venture on a trip to The Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Students were focusing on the key artist, Chiharus Shiota- a Japanese Installation Artist to support with their work and study in the next half term.

After winning two prestigious awards last academic year in The Formula One in Schools competition - the fastest and best designed car at the F1 regionals, Wetherby High School F1 in schools team is preparing to build on its success. We look forward to watching how the team progress.

Student Council representatives have met with Mr King three times this half term and discussed the rewards systems in school; what is going well and what they would like to see different in school.

KS3 Winter Sports day took place this half term with Year 7 and 8 students participating in various sports and activities to represent their house, resulting in Bremner House being crowned Winter Sports Day Champions.

Fresh Start Project supports children to recycle in their local area, Smutsville in South Africa, to collect 'points' to purchase essential items such as stationary, toiletries and toys from the 'swop-shop'. The local school cannot afford essential school stationary therefore we have launched an in school competition to see which Coaching Group and House can collect and donate the most pencils to support the children in their learning.

WHS have again hosted 'Restart a Heart day', this year volunteers from the Community First Responder Team have trained our Year 7, 10 and 12 students in the lifesaving skill of CPR. Fire Fighters from our local Wetherby fire station attended in support of the day.

Additionally I would like to remind families of the importance of student attendance and punctuality. All students are expected to attend school every day and where possible appointments should be made before or after school. If a student is going to be absent from school, please phone the absence line before 9 a.m. Students are required to be in school by 8:50 a.m. on Monday and 8:30a.m. on Tuesday to Friday. Students are also required to be in lessons promptly after break, lunch and changeover of lessons.

Ensure that you have followed us on Twitter and Facebook for regular updates and information.

Key Dates

Meet Your Coach Day- 24th October 2018

Auschwitz Residential- 25th – 28th October 2018

New Term- 5th November 2018

Year 10 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening- 7th November 2018

Bremner Charity Week- 19th -23rd November 2018

Sixth Form Open Evening- 21st November 2018

INSET Day- 3rd December 2018

Many Thanks,



Lucie Lakin
Headteacher