
WORDS FROM THE HART

6 October 2017



We hope you are enjoying these last few days of sunshine; sitting looking at the colours changing on the Chase, reminds us how lucky we are to live here. We have enjoyed another great week at school – we are not sure how we have managed to fit everything in!

Year 7 Chromebook Scheme



It has been a very busy week in IT, with our innovative Year 7 Chromebook Scheme reaching the next stage. The first phase of Chromebooks have been distributed this week, with sessions on how best to make use of them in lessons. We are very proud to be spearheading this scheme, giving so many students access to this excellent hardware to enrich their learning journeys.



Life and Soul Day



Our first Life and Soul Day of the year was a great success and we managed to go and see what lots of our year groups were involved with.

Some of our Year 7 students took part in a British Values day, enjoying a tea party and taking part in The Hart Festival, where they created their own short plays which generated some very impressive performances to the whole year group.



Our Year 9's had a great day over at Upper School getting their teeth stuck into this year's Enterprise Challenge project. Some great ideas were coming from those creative minds, in terms of concept initiation and development. We are sure we have a few Richard Branson's in the making!



Higher Horizons

We also sent a group of students along to Staffordshire University, who spent the day with Higher Horizons, and we received wonderful feedback from the University on the behaviour and commitment of those students on the day. They were even told to apply for places as soon as they were able. High praise indeed!

We had an entertaining day for Modern Foreign Languages Day this week, which saw students engaging in so many fun ways. Congratulations to tutor group 9-SBE who were victorious in the Euro Quiz.



Our Ski Trip students also enjoyed their second lesson at the dry slope at Swadlincote last night, which saw many of them making progress! Just a reminder that the next Ski Trip meeting will be held on **Monday 16 October at 5.15 pm at Lower School**.

This weekend will see the Green Power Racing Team heading off for their residential weekend at Rockingham Speedway, hoping to gain places and maximise the potential of their fantastic car - good luck team!



Year 11 Parents' Evening

We also have our all-important Year 11 Parents' Evening on **Monday 16 October at Upper School from 4.30 pm**, which will give all parents and carers the chance to meet with subject teachers to discuss GCSE progression. Please do try to join us for this; support from home has been proven to have an impact upon GSCE success.

Year 11 PPE

We have also shared our Pre Public Examination (PPE) Timetable this week for our Year 11's. As you all know, Year 11 is an extremely important year for our students and we do everything in our power to prepare them for these vital examinations, which come around so quickly.

Parent, Teachers & Friends Association

As we mentioned last week, we will also be establishing a Parents, Teachers & Friends Association at the school and have had a lot of interest already. We will hold a meeting after the half term break to start the ball rolling, so please bring your ideas with you then! We will confirm the date of the meeting in the next edition of 'Words From The Hart'.

Open Evenings

Next week we are holding our **Open Evenings on Tuesday 10 October and Thursday 12 October from 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm at Lower School** for any prospective parents and students to come and tour the school, visit each faculty and chat to the staff and students.

Year 7 Progress Evening

We held our Year 7 Progress Evening last night, which gave parents and carers an opportunity to receive an update on their child's first few weeks at school. It is often just as much of a daunting time for parents as it is for the students, so please do contact us if you have any questions; we are here to support you and your children.

Weekly Drop In

We have introduced a **Weekly Drop In** every **Thursday** from **8.30 am – 9.00 am** at **Lower School** for parents and carers of students in Years 7-13. If you have anything pressing that you would like to discuss with us in person, pop in and see us - it's been great to meet so many of you over the past week.

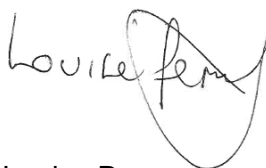
As always, if any parents would like a telephone conversation with any of your child's teachers, or should you have any concerns that you wish to chat through with our wonderful pastoral team, please contact the school on 01889 802440. We look forward to welcoming you into school over the coming weeks.

Enjoy the weekend.

Best wishes,



Holly Hartley
Acting Executive Principal



Louise Perry
Acting Principal

Term dates for your diary

Half Term: Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October 2017 inclusive

Christmas Holiday: Wednesday 20 December 2017 - Tuesday 2 January 2018 inclusive

Inset Day: Wednesday 3 January 2018; students return on Thursday 4 January 2018