

8th February 2018

End of spring half term 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe we are nearly half way through the year already! I can honestly say I have absolutely loved every day at our school since September and I continue to be so proud of all our wonderful young people: it is a joy and a privilege to be working with them every day

I wanted to write to highlight some important information for you all.

Changes to the school day

The changes to the school day will take place after the half term holiday. Students have all been informed, we have posters going up in classes with the changes and we will change the timing of the bells! The most important message is that school will be ending ten minutes earlier each day: the buses have been ordered for the right time and I am confident that the transition will go smoothly.

Leadership Ladder

We have introduced our new awards scheme in school: the Leadership Ladder and students have embraced this. Our first recipients received their awards this week: well done to Tanya Somanna, Aadya Prakash, and Samhita Komaragiri who have all completed the Lower Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, and they now move onto the Upper awards! And also to Max Shannon, Christian Weber, Charles Hamilton, Katherine Kanaka who have successfully completed their Lower bronze awards! Please see our social media for details. The Leadership Ladder is our way of recognising our students' contribution as socially responsible members of their communities, enabled and committed to being a positive change in our world. Please speak to your sons and daughters about the scheme: they have all been given a booklet and prompt them to make sure they are being recognised for all the brilliant things they do. Thank you!

Student Voice

Thanks also for all the support you have given in helping us getting a really good response to our Student Voice survey. A majority of students in each year group filled this out. We now have some really helpful information in thinking about what we can do to make our school even better. I was particularly pleased that:

- an overwhelming majority of students feel safe and happy in school
- an overwhelming majority of students believe our school is a good school
- and again a huge majority of students feel that teachers 'have high expectations and expect me to do my best'

This is particularly important as more than anything else our purpose is for students to be happy, safe and feel supported to achieve and be, 'the very best versions of themselves each day'.

Cake Sale for 'Make A Wish'



We are proud to inform you that Amisha Sheri, our Head Girl led the Junior Leadership Team with the aid of Mrs Hulton, School Development Officer, in a wonderful event to raise money for Make A Wish charity this week. Staff and students got behind the event, by bringing in baked goods and cakes to raise money for Amisha's chosen charity, in memory of her brother Jason, a former pupil, who was tragically lost to his family and community. Well done Amisha and the Team!

Year 11 parents

I know that your sons and daughters are working hard on their revision. I was so impressed by the amazing response that they showed on our 'mock results day'. I also know it can be really hard to keep up the impetus but they are being so brilliant and showing such resilience with their preparation. We really want to do our bit in helping them with this. Teachers will be giving up time to run revision sessions over the holiday. Students have signed up this morning in tutor time and given an indication of which sessions they will attend – the sessions are listed below. A huge thanks to them and parents/carers for all the help and please be in touch if we can be of any further help.

Year 11 revision classes

February 2018: Half Term Year 11 Revision Sessions

Please use the main reception entrance and go straight to your classroom where you will be signed in.

Monday 9.00 - 12.00	Science
Monday 10.30 - 12.30	MFL Foundation
Monday 12.30 - 2.15	MFL Higher
Tuesday 9.30 - 12.30	History
Tuesday 12.30 - 3.00	Food
Wednesday 10.00 - 2.00	Maths
Wednesday 10.00 - 1.00	Health and Social coursework catch up
Thursday 9.00 - 1.00	Music
Thursday 10.00 - 2.00	Health and Social coursework catch up

Performance Tables

I hope you were able to see also the Performance Tables which were released last week? We don't want to gloat but were really pleased that the school did so well! Again, what a testimony to the work of staff and students. I am so proud. Please spread the message for us of how well our school is doing: getting the message out of what a great school we are really benefits our students in their future lives, as we know, reputation is everything: and our staff and students really do deserve that recognition. The esteem with which the school is held is also reflected in the initial figures we have had for the incoming year 7 in September: It looks great!! It is clear that all the hard work of staff and students in creating SHS as 'the school of choice for the community' is really bearing fruit.

Key dates next half term:

- 8th March - Year 10 parents evening
- 15th March - Head Teacher's surgery
- 29th March - Super Learning Day 4
- 29th March - Close for Easter holiday and return on 16th April.

Please do keep an eye on the website, Twitter and Facebook for all the great things we are up to.

Take care, thanks again and very best wishes!

Jayne O'Grady

Jayne O'Grady
Head Teacher