

November 2017

Dear parents and carers

As always I want to personally thank you for all the support you give to the school. I hope you have had a good break in the recent half term.

We have successfully negotiated the first half term of year 9 and the students have responded very well on the whole to the increased expectation that comes with year 9 and the beginning of the GCSE preparation. If there are any concerns about the academic report for your child, the email address and phone numbers for the tutors or heads of faculty are at the end of this letter, or alternatively you can contact me and I will forward any queries to the correct place.

From talking to the students and teachers it appears the students in this year group have taken to their option subjects well. They are, on the whole, also working hard in the other subjects and I am delighted that often teachers will tell me that their year 9 groups are working hard and they are really pleased with them. We have some work to do as a year group in looking at ways to revise that help us make progress and so ensure that all the hard work is put to good use and the students get the results they deserve.

As a year group we represent the school at the annual Service of Remembrance that will be taking place on the Friday 10th November. This takes place during the school day and, as always, has been arranged and overseen by Mrs Harris and Mrs Hastings. The students are learning two hymns/songs during assembly and we will be ready to take part in this important community event. **Students are strongly encouraged to wear a poppy for this event.** Poppies are available at school along with some other less traditional ways of supporting this worthy cause.

The year group are doing well with their extra and co curriculum interests. We already have some national sports stars in mountain biking, running and boxing just to mention a few. Our boy's football team goes from strength to strength and we are hopeful as they compete their way up the league that we will see a big win from them. I am most proud of their ethos, good manners and teamwork.

I also had the pleasure recently of seeing 6 of our year graduate from the Phoenix Project. This is an engagement and inclusion project, based at the local fire station, and run through a community partnership initiative. Some very proud parents and grandparents were there with local dignitaries to witness the Passing out parade and demonstration and the presentation of their certificates by the Mayor. Wherever we can we will be looking for extra-curricular training and experiences for the students.

All that remains is for me remind you about the forthcoming online safety event for parents on 28 November 2017 and the free online "Solihull" parenting programme available to all of you. May I also wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas when the season arrives.

Kindest regards



Julie Greener HOY (9)

Together: we care, we challenge, we excel



Tavistock COLLEGE

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