

Dear Parents and Carers,

18th October 2024

We have had another good week at Waseley as we draw ever closer to the half term break. There have been a large number of activities both in and out of school this week that have allowed our students to develop their skills as excellent leaders, communicators and ambassadors for the school.

The Year 12 and 13 students went to Alton Towers on Wednesday as a reward for their hard work towards the mock examinations and progress towards their post 18 applications including early entrance tests to Oxbridge. This trip also recognised their contribution to the school culture whether that be Lead Ambassadors on the school council, prefects or study partners for students who need extra support with reading. The students were amazing and a credit to themselves and the school.

The Musical production of Matilda has been coming along nicely with rehearsals taking place for the choir on Wednesday and the drama production on Thursday. The cast are loving the experience and we are excited to see it come together with such talent coupled with hard work for those students who are committed to practising every week. The progress is already being seen and we are looking forward to continuing this over the next few months.

Year 9 had the privilege of watching a dramatic performance of 'The Tell Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe, performed by Redheart Theatre. Exposure to the performance allowed the year group to experience firsthand the dramatic tension that Poe intended to create through his text. Our students relished the opportunity to ask the company about their favourite characters, props and lighting.

Our Year 12 and 13 students also went to see Othello at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon to experience the world class performance as part of their studies in A-level English. We are incredibly fortunate to be so close to the home of Shakespeare and it was great to see these students get the experience firsthand of the text they are studying brought to life.

Yesterday evening, we welcomed over 100 families to our High Prior Attaining Parent Information Evening where we shared our philosophy for HPA students and how we support both them and their parents. We shared our new super curricular booklet that includes read, watch, listen and do activities for all subjects to enable learners to stretch and challenge themselves as well as foster a love of learning outside of the classroom. This booklet is available to all students and parents on our website [Waseley Hills High School - High Prior Attainers \(waseleyhillsschool.org.uk\)](http://waseleyhillsschool.org.uk), and we would encourage all of our students to explore this with the people at home.

On Wednesday 23rd October we will be hosting our annual careers fair, with over 30 exhibitors including local colleges, universities, the armed forces, public services, and employers from a range of industries. All students will have the opportunity to visit the fair throughout the school day and will be challenged to complete a 'careers passport'. We are inviting parents and carers to explore the fair with their child during our 'open hour' between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. There is no requirement to book, simply sign in on arrival.

Please be reminded that the side gate is pedestrian only from 8:30-9:00am and 15:20-15:50 to ensure our students safely arrive and leave from school. The end of half term is next week where students are not expected in school on Friday 25th October as this is a teacher inset day.

Kind regards,

Mr T Preston

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Preston', written in a cursive style.

Principal