

Dear Parent and Carers,

21<sup>st</sup> March 2025

The past two weeks have been a time to reflect on the lovely atmosphere in school and between the community and students working together to get great outcomes for all.

All year groups have had assemblies to promote 'Happiness Day'. How we enjoy ourselves and what makes us happy is so important for our Mental Health and so taking the time to reflect on this was a good way to get started for a busy week. With a lovely glimmer of sunshine arriving, we have also welcomed new life into the Waseley family in the form of our chicks hatching and growing before our eyes. We have them on live stream to monitor and talk about their progress and the Year 7 students have the difficult but exciting job of naming the new members of the family. Watch this space for the results!

The offer to uphold our enrichment guarantee continues with students engaging with various opportunities and experiences beyond the classroom. Mrs Edwards took the Waseley Choir to London to take part in the 'Voice in a Million' event. The students were in fine voice about being part of this mass sing at Wembley Stadium. The main event was hair raising and the cast t-shirts unified everyone together! It was very special and although a long day with tired children at the end it was definitely worth it and something the students will remember for the rest of their lives.

We saw a fantastic turnout for Year 10 parents in their Steps to Success evening which once again highlighted the strength of our community supporting academic excellence. The session involved helping parents and carers understand how they can support with revision and organisation to get the best outcomes possible but also how to manage the inevitable stress and pressure that comes with the students wanting to perform well in their end of year examinations. We also saw a wonderful turnout to the Year 9 Options evening on where once again the cohesion between staff and parents was wonderful to see.

**Please note that the deadline for Year 9 Options forms is Monday 31st March to be returned to form tutors.**

This matched a wonderful part of our Ofsted inspection in which we gained feedback from you as parents on carers for the school in the Parent View. The stark contrast between previous years and now is so clear to see. To name a few key indicators 77% of parents 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that their child is happy in school, 80% 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that their child feels safe in school and 74% of parents 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that they would recommend the school to another parent. Compare this to 2021/22 academic year where only 42% of parents 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that their child is happy in school; 59% 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that their child feels safe in school and only 28% of parents 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' that they would recommend the school to another parent. For us, this is an incredibly important part of our school that you as parents and carers feel that this is a safe and happy school and one that you would recommend. There is still room for improvement on all of those fronts but it is nice to see in a week like this one the cohesiveness of the community come to fruition and how it is moving in the right direction.

Some of our Year 11s have had a very productive workshop with Daniel Birch, from ASK (Apprenticeship Support Knowledge), where students were able to have a deeper understanding about the purpose to apprenticeship and the structure of the courses available. They were given training on how to excel in the application forms and typical interview questions. Students were also provided with the opportunity to register onto the [Find an apprenticeship -](#)

[GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website to search for apprenticeships, which was relevant to them. Our learners were really engaged with the process and had many aspirational and intriguing questions for Daniel. We are sure our learners will succeed!

It has been wonderful to see our students engaged with the numerous cultural activities during the Neurodiversity Celebration Week where we have more in-depth knowledge of: the definition of neurodiversity; learning about the human brain and how our brain is not alike; respecting differences; understanding different ways of thinking, learning, interacting and perceiving the world; understanding some of the diagnosis such as ADHD, ASC, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia and Tourette's Syndrome and learning of how we can support ourselves and others.



Our Year 11 GCSE Drama students went to see War Horse, the play adaptation from the story by Michael Morpurgo in Wolverhampton. The visit will fully equip the students in crafting their response to the section B of their written paper in the summer.

Our Sixth form committee for Diversity have organised some creative explorations for celebrating Ramadan. They have provided the students with mehndi hand painting designs and have created a beautiful display in the front entrance for all our visitors to see.



Congratulations to Sam Hallett who has been successful in representing Great Britain in the European Championships in Portugal in the summer for Kick Boxing. We wish him all the best for his training and good luck for the competition.

## **Punctuality and Uniform**

We have seen an increase in the number of students arriving late to school, we would like to remind parents and students that the school day starts at 8.45am and students should not be arriving on site later than this time. It is important that students are in classrooms ready to begin their learning as promptly as possible and we ask for your support in achieving this. Students who continue to be late to school may face increasing sanctions further than break time detention. If there are extenuating circumstances that will affect your child's ability to arrive at school for 8.45am then please contact your child's tutor so we can work together to address the problem and support you.

Thank you for your continued support with ensuring your young people attend school wearing their full uniform with pride. With summer hopefully on its way we just wanted to remind about wearing skirts with either ankle socks or tights and not knee-high socks. Thank you in advance of this.

Thank you for your support,

Mr T Preston

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

Principal