



Parent / Carer

Our Ref: CR

21 December 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer,

What an incredible term this has been.

It started extremely positively with Parent Tutor Day in early November when we were delighted to meet almost all parents of students at the academy! The relationship between school and home is invaluable and it was great to have the opportunity to discuss how students had settled into the academic year and take the time to set challenging goals for the future.

We also set challenging goals for ourselves here at the academy, and we are continually striving to look for new ways to increase leadership opportunities for our young people. It has been a pleasure to see so many students embracing these opportunities and volunteering themselves for roles and responsibilities within the academy.

Interviews have taken place for Sixth Form House Captains and main school House Leaders and successful students have now been appointed to their roles. The quality of students' applications and their responses at interview were extremely impressive and we are looking forward to working with House Captains and House Leaders in Term 3.

November saw large numbers of students trained to become Peer Mentors by the Rotary Peace Project, trained to become Anti Bullying Ambassadors by the Diana Award, and volunteering to represent the academy at the Mental Health Young People's Forum. We are so proud of the open, inclusive culture that has been established at the academy for many years, but to see our students wanting to drive this culture forward themselves is truly inspirational. Anti-bullying week was the launch pad for our future anti-bullying work, and we look forward to students leading each other to "choose respect" over the coming year.

Respect was in abundance at our annual Armistice Day celebration on 9th November. Year on year, our students congregate in the Heart of Hatton and pay their respects to the service men and women of our Armed Forces. Yet again this year, they proved just what amazing young people they are: over a thousand teenagers in the Heart of Hatton, and you could have heard a pin drop. It was extremely poignant.

Not only are our students incredibly respectful, they are also extremely talented. Term 2 has seen sporting success in football and volleyball, academic success in the Y11 mocks and Y13 Oxbridge interviews, and personal success and character development for Y7 and Y8 through the HBACC. It was a delight to see the hall full of parents and carers who were able to join us for the HBACC awards assemblies at the start of December, and planning has already begun for the next round of awarding!

Our annual Careers Day took place on 7th December when students were able to opt for a range of sessions to receive advice, guidance, information or inspiration for future careers. The conduct of students throughout the day was impeccable and we received many complimentary emails from external providers who were impressed by the attitudes of our students.

Learning is a rigorous, continuous process at Hatton and although we have been counting down to Christmas, lessons have continued as normal and student engagement has remained high. We have, however, found time for a little bit of Christmas cheer along the way. The Hatton Academies Trust Christmas concert on 13th December was, as always, a wonderful event that brought together our family of schools to celebrate this special time of year. Christmas Jumper Day followed on 14th December and this week we have had the Y7 disco and our inaugural 'Lip Sync Battle' house competition. This event was organised by Sixth Form House Captains, led by Leah Parris & Gina Scott. The evening was one of the best the academy has ever seen, and full credit must go to the students for their tenacity and hard work in bringing together this thoroughly enjoyable event.

The icing on the cake this half term was the news that we have been awarded the **World Class Schools** quality mark. The award's uniqueness lies in the fact that the students are assessed as to whether they are World Class or not, rather than the school itself. The premise is, that if the school is truly world class, then its students should be able to demonstrate this in whatever context they find themselves. Our students did just that, and congratulations must go to: Milan Pancholi, Chloe Phipps, Harry McWilliam, Jacob Sexton, Yasmin Rashid and Olivia Law who led the process on behalf of the student body. This is a fantastic achievement for the students and the school; we are the first and only school in Northamptonshire to achieve this award which builds on the fantastic outcomes that Hatton students achieve.

As we look forward to Term 3, I would like to draw your attention to the following dates for your diaries; further communication regarding the booking of online appointments will follow:

- Y11 parents' evening - 10th January
- Y9 & Y10 progress evening (by invitation only) – 22nd January
- Y8 parents' evening – 5th February
- Y12 & Y13 parents' evening – 13th February

The academy will reopen on Monday 7th January and we look forward to seeing all of our students Dressed and Ready for Excellence, and in form time by 8.35am. Excellent attendance and punctuality are vital for academic and future success, and the academy makes no apologies for challenging students and parents when attendance falls below academy expectations. Everything we do is about ensuring that your child achieves the success of which they are capable: together anything is possible for all students at Hatton.

I would like to thank you for your continued support, and wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Raku
Head of School