

Hawkey Hall High School

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Headteacher: Mr M. Klinck



'The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding'. (Ofsted)

16th of December 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to you to encourage you to read the latest addition of the Hawkeye that you will find attached to this message. During this term we have endeavored to provide as many opportunities as possible, inside and outside the classroom for our young people. We have worked with diverse organisations and individuals to provide enrichment and experiences including colleges, universities, football and rugby clubs, parliament, artists, writers, actors and international sportswomen and transatlantic explorers. We will continue to do this whilst constantly reviewing our curriculum to ensure it remains broad and balanced.

Christmas activities and rewards

This week we have endeavored to provide as many Christmas experiences as possible for students. They have enjoyed different rewards, trips to the theatre and Roller Rinks as well as Christmas dinner and our Inclusion Christmas parties. Our young people have been a credit to the school when off site. As always, members of the public commented on their positive attitude and behaviour. In the rewards assemblies this week it has been noticeable that over 434 students had numerous positive rewards and not a single negative. This is a fantastic achievement. We are endeavoring to recognise even more the achievements and consistency of so many of our students whilst reflecting on behaviour and expectations as much as possible through assemblies, engagement periods and in lesson.

H Block refurbishment

As we enter the new term, we are hopeful to begin using our new refurbished Technologies facility in January. This will give us additional workshop capacity and improved facilities for practical learning in design technology, construction and engineering. Subjects that are extremely popular with our students across the key stages. Staff and students have been very patient during this time as losing H Block has reduced space, toilet capacity and access to those classrooms. We hope all stakeholders will see that it was worth the wait.

Attendance

Can I please urge all parents and carers to stress the importance of full attendance next term. Attendance after Covid is a national issue but we must aim for all of our young people to be in school, learning. There is no substitute for this. Research shows that even 5% absence can impact on outcomes for young people. With my own children I always try to encourage them to aim for 100%. Again, we have recognised those with outstanding attendance and those who have significantly improved their attendance during this term in our awards assemblies this week.

Reports

This term The Rowan Learning Trust and the school have done significant work on our assessment procedures and reporting, particularly at KS3. This will hopefully make it easier for parents and carers to reflect on key areas for improvement with their children, both in terms of their academic progress and attitude to learning. Your child's autumn report is being uploaded to WEDUC for you to view. We apologise for a short delay which is as a result of administrative staff absence. We will be reinforcing the information within the reports with additional information evenings to discuss the curriculum to help you support for your child in the coming months. This will be supplemented by Parents Evenings that will return to being face to face this year in school, something that many parents have asked for. As always, if you have any concerns about a particular subject please contact the teacher directly in the first

instance in the new year.

Reflections

As you are aware, we have faced the unexpected death of one of our students in the last fortnight. This has greatly saddened the community and as I stated last week, we have expressed our deepest condolences to McKenzie's family. I must say how proud I am of our young people and staff, who have supported each other and have spent time listening and talking, sharing memories and kind words. I particularly want to thank our pastoral team who have worked tirelessly to help our students. It is clear that we have lost a wonderful, kind, polite and talented young man who was popular with staff and students alike. He had friends across the school and beyond who care about him dearly. We have outlined how we can all act to support our young people in another letter sent in recent days. We will continue to work with the LA and other service providers to help our students at this difficult time.

Christmas can be a joyful time, but it can also be a time of high emotions when normal routines are disrupted. Please find below some specific sources of support and advice that may be appropriate if your child experiences any challenges with their mental health over the extended break. With this link involved [If you're in an unhappy place \(wigan.gov.uk\)](https://www.wigan.gov.uk). Young people can also access online support outside of school there are also a number of services that are available <https://www.kooth.com> , www.childline.org.uk 0800 1111 or 24/7 text support service Text SHOUT to 85258

Finally, can I wish you all a restful and peaceful Christmas. We look forward to welcoming our young people back into school on Tuesday 3rd of January 2023. As always, many thanks for your support and feedback during this term.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr. M Klinck
Headteacher



Hawley Hall High School (Public Group)

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