

Embed confidence; fuel ambition.

5 January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope you and your family had a lovely relaxing break over the Christmas period. It has been lovely to welcome back our students this week – even though it did seem very early in the new year!

New staff welcome

Please join me in welcoming the following new staff to Lawnswood School. This term, Yvonne Moore joins us as Head of Faculty for Art & Design Technology, and we have two new part time colleagues in Science: Lisa Rollett and Kate Wormwell. Also, welcome to Maqs Shah, who joined Science at the end of last term. Richard Freestone has also joined our in-house IT team.

Safety on our school site

Whilst we recognise the need for some parents and carers to drive their children to school, we are becoming increasingly worried about the safety of our students as they arrive at school in the morning and leave school at the end of the day. With this in mind, please do not drive onto the school site but either drop or pick up your child in one of the neighbouring streets.

Additionally, please do take care when driving or dropping off/picking up your children around the school. We constantly talk to our students about the need for road safety and sensible behaviour when crossing roads, but unfortunately there have still been two recent accidents. I am currently in discussion with the local councillors to investigate what can be done to increase the safety of our students when travelling to and from school.

Thank you in advance for your support with this matter. I know the safety of your children and our students is forefront in both our minds.

Parent Governor needed

We have a vacancy for a new Parent Governor so are seeking a new representative for our Governing Body. The post is open to parents, guardians, carers or relatives of a child at the school. I strongly encourage you to peruse the letter attached to this email for more details and to complete the nomination form, also attached, if you would like to offer yourself as a candidate. Being a governor is a fantastic way to positively influence the continued development of our school and community.

Year 11 mock exam results – Thursday 11 January

We were very impressed with how our Year 11 students approached their mock exams just before Christmas. Their dedication to their revision and the manner in which they conducted themselves and coped with the stress of a very full examination timetable was exemplary. Since the exams, our staff have been frantically marking we are ready to issue the results to the students at 8.30am on Thursday 11 January.

With a view to help prepare students for picking up their real GCSE results in August 2018, they will be given their exam results formally in an envelope. After the results have been handed out,

there will be a short assembly to remind students of the context of these results and remind them of the tasks ahead of them this term.

Please do take time to discuss these results with your child, remembering that they are merely their exam results and do not take into consideration any controlled assessments or elements of the summer examination that students are not yet ready to access. A full report with predicted grades, which take all elements into consideration, and effort grades will be issued to students and parents/carers in the next fortnight.

Year 9 Options Evening – Thursday 18 January

It is time for our Year 9 students to start making decisions about the subjects they will focus on in Key Stage 4. During the next two weeks, students will experience GCSE style lessons during their normal lessons to help them make their decisions.

If you have a child in Year 9 you will have been invited to our Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 18 January where there will be an opportunity to find out more about the options process and discuss the details of GCSE course with subject specific staff.

Zero Club

Congratulations to the 295 students who have become members of the Lawnswood Bronze Zero Club. This club acknowledges and rewards those students who have displayed exceptionally high standards during the autumn term, and who have achieved the following:

- exemplary behaviour with no cautions;
- 100% completion of all home learning;
- always ensured they are fully equipped for all lessons and wear their full school uniform with pride;
- 100% punctuality.

These students received their certificates in assembly before Christmas and will be enjoying a celebration afternoon during this half-term. We hope that this will encourage more students to set their standards high for this term and we look forward to seeing more students join the Zero Club at the end of next term.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Bell
Headteacher