

Embed confidence; fuel ambition.

2 February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Hairspray**

I hope that you managed to see our production of Hairspray the musical this week. After months of hard work, sweat and dedication, the staff and students involved with the show gave us a truly fantastic music and dance extravaganza! So many students were involved in so many ways that it is impossible for me to thank them all personally. However, I would like to say a huge thank you to absolutely everyone who contributed – Miss Mitchell's idea for the perfect production would not have been such a success without you.

### **Readathon**

Following the launch of Readathon almost three weeks ago, Year 7 and 8 students have enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to read whilst also raising money for charity. Students have been borrowing from the school library and avidly reading in their library lessons; during registration; and at home. They have even been spotted reading whilst walking along school corridors.

Reading is a lifelong skill and the impact cannot be under-estimated. If you have the chance to sponsor a student for time spent reading, please do. All the money raised will help to provide books for children in hospitals around the country and enables storytellers to regularly visit them. With the half term holiday approaching, please encourage your child to fit in some quality reading time.

### **Students of the month for January**

*Year 7: Felicity Websdale*

Felicity has been working really hard both in and out of the classroom to improve her engagement, attitude to learning and success in lessons. She has been providing support to her peers and developing the confidence to participate in year group enrichment projects.

*Year 8: Ruby Baidoo*

Ruby is so positive and hard-working in all her lessons, she is an excellent role model to others and is awarded an impressive number of commendations!

*Year 9: Manvir Heera*

Manvir demonstrated his consideration and support of others by some particular behaviour last term. His helpful and thoughtful nature is a valuable asset to not only his year group but to our school community in general.

*Year 10: Raul Onyett*

Raul is consistently well mannered to adults and peers. He works hard and has a good attitude to learning, as well as participating in a range of extracurricular activities, all of which makes him a great ambassador for others to emulate.

*Year 11: Dea Jenson*

Dea's enthusiasm, motivation and keenness to achieve is exemplary! She works hard to improve and is putting in extra effort to achieve her desired results.

### **Zero Club events**

Later this month, we will host our inaugural Zero Club event. On 21 February, Year 7 and 8 Club members will be treated to an afternoon of film and pizza. Year 9 and 10 Zero Club members will have the same reward on 21 March.

### **Commendation certificate**

Following our January drive to reward positive behaviour, some students will be awarded Commendation certificates during their assembly next week. We are delighted to be able to award 379 bronze certificates and 28 students will be awarded silver certificates.

### **Dates for your diary**

Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening on Thursday 8 February from 5.00pm until 7.00pm.

Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening on Tuesday 20 February from 5.00pm until 7.00pm.

### **CERN trip**

Our Geneva trip is getting closer and our group of students and staff can hardly wait to go to the European Organization for Nuclear Research (aka CERN)! The trip, during half term break, includes not only the visit to CERN but also a walking tour of Geneva, visits to the History of Science and Natural History Museums, a visit to the headquarters of the UN, a boat cruise, and free time for sightseeing.

I am sure you join me in wishing the travellers a safe, enlightening and very enjoyable trip.

### **Parent governor**

I was pleased to learn that we have received two nominations for our position of Parent Governor. We shall be contacting you again very soon to ask you to vote for your preferred candidate. Please keep an eye on your emails and our website for further information.

### **Lawnswood top of the league!**

The school performance tables were published by the Department for Education last week and Lawnswood School has done very well. At Key Stage 4, we have made a huge improvement from last year, making us the second most improved school in Leeds. Even more pleasing are our Key Stage 5 results, which were well above average and place us in the top 5% nationally and, in Leeds, we are second only to South Leeds Academy, which has just 14 students.

As this half term nears its end, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to sharing more news with you as we make further improvements to our school community. Finally, I wish all our students, their families and our staff a very happy half term holiday.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Bell  
Headteacher