

Embed confidence; fuel ambition.

4 May 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

I am especially glad to have completed this week and to be looking forward to an extended weekend. On Tuesday, as you know, we had our long-anticipated inspection visit by Ofsted. Unfortunately, I am unable to share the outcome of the visit but I will send the formal report as soon as we receive it. In the meantime, I confirm we were pleased with the visit and I would like to thank the staff and students for all their support; we showed our school at its best.

### **WORDS reading strategy**

One strand of our reading strategy is to show students just how important reading is in a wide range of jobs. With that in mind, I should be grateful if you would contribute to our bank of evidence by providing your job title and an indication of how you use reading in the course of your work. I have attached a document for you to complete and return via email to Mrs Gilbank at [gilbank.fio@elawnswood.co.uk](mailto:gilbank.fio@elawnswood.co.uk) or on paper to school for Mrs Gilbank's attention. Many thanks to parents who have already provided information - it is now on display and includes a film director, bicycle mechanic, solicitor, sales administrator, receptionist, social worker and many others! We may contact you again later in the year to ask whether you might be willing to be filmed on the subject of reading and work.

### **PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) and extended provision**

You may be aware that we have been busy delivering a variety of content in relation to life skills across the PSHE curriculum this year so far. Many topic areas have already been covered including how to keep safe; making informed decisions; how to live a healthy active lifestyle; healthy eating; and much more. For further details about the specific content and an outline of the curriculum across KS3 and KS4, please see the PSHE section of our website - [Lawnswood School - PSHE](#). You can also find the PSHE content overview in your child's planner. If you have any feedback about topics you may want your child to discuss in the future, you are welcome to contact the school to share your ideas.

In addition, we have recently self-evaluated to retain our Healthy Schools status. We will be assessed next Wednesday and we would like to include your views as part of the assessment. To that end, I should be grateful if you would complete a short survey. All responses will be anonymous and it will take you less than 10 minutes to complete. To complete the survey please click on the following link: [Health and Wellbeing Service Parent Survey](#). Thank you for your support.

### **Ramadan**

Ramadan will begin around 17 May and many of our Muslim students will fast for the period. At the moment, we expect Eid al-Fitr festivities (and the end of Ramadan) to be on 15 or 16 June. We are aware of guidance for schools and have plans for how we support students, especially in warm weather and throughout the exam period.

In accord with our safeguarding responsibilities, we intend to apply judgement and common sense on a case-by-case basis but, if you have any particular concerns about your child during Ramadan, please raise it with his or her year team.

### ***Vehicles on school site***

We have noticed that an increasing number of cars are coming on site just before and after school. As the site is accessible by both vehicles and pedestrians, we are constantly mindful of our duty of care for the safety of students in particular. I understand that it can be difficult to park in the local area.

However, to ensure the safety of our students, we ask that parents, carers and friends do not drive onto the school site to drop off or pick up students at the beginning or end of the school day. If you are dropping off or picking up a child, please do so in the surrounding streets.

If it is absolutely necessary for you to drive onto site, reduce your speed to 5mph and please take care to check for pedestrians at all times, especially where cars are parked and around the crossing area in front of reception.

Finally, concerns have been raised by parents and other members of our community about cars being parked on site or by the school gateways with the engine running while parents/carers wait for their children. If you are waiting for your child(ren) in your vehicle, please turn off the engine in order to minimise the effects of air pollution for everyone.

### ***Easter school holiday consultation***

As I detailed in my last update, Leeds City Council is seeking public opinion again to decide whether to continue the current arrangement with regard to fixed end of term holidays at Easter time or to return to a school holiday that moves according to the Easter bank holidays.

Please visit their site to complete the online survey about the Easter holiday issue: [www.leeds.gov.uk/easterholidayconsultation](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/easterholidayconsultation) The consultation closes on Friday 8 June 2018.

### ***Dates for your diary or for information:***

- Monday 7 May: public holiday (school closed)
- Friday 11 May: Key Stage 5 careers event in school during the school day
- Monday 14 May: period of exam preparation and exams begins

If you are able to take advantage of the bank holiday weekend, I wish you an enjoyable few days with your family.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Bell  
Headteacher