



Our Ref: KWA/MBE

11th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your support this term and to share some of the things that have been happening in school since September.

Rewards: We have had a real push on rewarding our hardest working children, talking about and modelling what hard work looks and feels like. It has been wonderful to walk around lessons and hear so many students rewarded with merits and teachers explaining how these are linked to hard work. Since September, we have had over 900 students awarded with merits and over 110,000 given out. I hope that your child has spoken to you about this and you have enjoyed seeing the green on class charts. We have more rewards for learning starting soon and I look forward to sharing our 'proud' photos and names with you.

Trips, Visits and Enrichment: We have seen our weekly enrichment programme launch and the uptake has been excellent. It is great to see so many students joining our wide range of clubs and our sporting students representing our school in numerous events.

We have also had a number of curriculum enrichments with 'Prison Me No Way!' and 'Restart a Heart' taking place in school as well as a number of trips, including Year 10 photographers going to York and our Year 11 geographers taking part in two field work visits. We have also launched our OAA programme and the first groups of Year 8 students have been visiting the Peak District to take part in Moorland Walking on Wednesdays.

We have also hosted the Anne Frank exhibition and our Year 9 students were trained to be curators of this exhibition, holding talks for our Year 7 and Year 8 students, as well as local primary school children who visited to take part.

Independent Learning Tasks (homework): We launched ILT for all students to help them consolidate their learning from lessons and embed core knowledge into their long-term memories. The engagement with ILT has been excellent and I am incredibly proud of all of our students and how they have embraced this. I guarantee that this will make a huge difference to their assessment scores and their final GCSE and A level grades. We also look forward to sharing our first round of reports with you soon.

Key Reminders and Dates: I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about our rules on jewellery and that only one pair of earrings are allowed to be worn in school and any facial piercings must be a clear plastic retainer.

We break up for Christmas on **Thursday 19th December** and this will be Christmas jumper day. All students are encouraged to wear a **Christmas jumper** on top of their normal school uniform, blazers are not required to be worn on this day. We would also love to see festive earrings, tinsel in hair and any other festive headgear!

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kerry Wade". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Kerry Wade
Headteacher