

22 December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome so many of you to our celebration assemblies this week to acknowledge the success of our students. These assemblies are an important part of our revised awards programme designed to reward those students who demonstrate excellent progress and attainment in their subjects. Our Form Tutor, Achievement Coordinator and Headteacher Awards also celebrate those students who have contributed to the life of the school demonstrating a range of skills including excellent teamwork, commitment and perseverance. These assemblies reinforce our **high standards, high expectations and huge aspirations** for our students.

We have also been pleased to host several parent workshops this term sharing our new approach to teaching and learning as well as our new conduct cards. The feedback that we receive from parents has been gratefully received and is used to inform future developments. There are more events of this nature to come and we look forward to having further opportunities to work with you in improving other aspects of the school.

This has also been a busy term for our students who have undertaken a wide range of activities, the Christmas Shoebox appeal, collection for Erdington foodbank, Christmas jumper day for Kids and Save the Children, Stay Safe workshops with our local PCSOs and The Lord Mayors Quiz where we were the top scoring comprehensive school in Birmingham coming in a respectable 5th place. This is in addition to many educational visits to a selection of universities and The Birmingham Library.

As the end of term approaches we are saying goodbye to some long serving staff who have been committed to supporting John Willmott School and students for many years. They go off to new ventures with the heartfelt thanks of the Governing Body on behalf of all the staff, students and parents past and present. There will therefore be some staffing changes in school, these are designed to reflect the changing priorities within school with a clear focus on progress and attainment whilst maintaining strong pastoral support. All these posts have been filled with existing experienced staff from within school as follows: -

Assistant Headteacher, progress & attainment KS4 (Years 9, 10 & 11)	:	Mrs R Shell-McLeod
Assistant Headteacher, progress & attainment KS3 (Years 7 & 8)	:	Mrs L Lockley
Head of Pastoral Care (& Year 7)	:	Mr J Hunter
Head of Year 8	:	Mr D Roberts
Head of Year 9	:	Miss K Holland
Head of Year 10	:	Mr A Nimmo
Head of Year 11	:	Mr A Grice
Head of House, Wellington	:	Miss L Smart
Head of House, Lancaster	:	Miss J Luckett
Head of House, Spitfire	:	Mr S Isaacson
Head of House, Hurricane	:	Ms I Aserie
Attendance Officer	:	Mrs D Reynolds

We are looking forward to an exciting Spring term full of fresh new challenges. The new Heads of House will be leading some significant changes to the House system at the request of the school council, including new and increasing opportunities for student leadership.

Mr Hunter will be leading the pastoral team ensuring that we continue to support our students to be safe, happy and successful. Mrs Shell-McLeod and Mrs Lockley will focus on improving the progress of students within each Key Stage and will work closely with our Heads of Faculty to ensure the very best provision and outcomes across all subjects. I am confident that these staff will continue to ensure high quality support for you and your children throughout the coming year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all safe and well on Wednesday 10 January 2018 at 8.45 AM.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T Peters', written in a cursive style.

Mrs T Peters
HEADTEACHER