



28th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It has been an extremely positive term for the Wetherby High School community with the children involved in many different events across school.

This term has seen our Year 7, 8 and 9 students undertake their midterm assessments, an important opportunity for students, staff and parents/carers to celebrate the progress made so far this year and identify areas we can challenge and support with further. The students' positive attitude to these was pleasing to see. Year 11 have been working with pace and purpose this term as their external exams are fast approaching. I am sure their determination to work hard will ensure they can be proud of what they have achieved when results day arrives. We will see a lot of the Year 11 students over the Easter break as they attend intervention sessions. Please support your children with revision at home over this period of time, it will help with confidence on their return to school.

We have had some significant events in the school calendar taking place over this term. Year 10 successfully undertook their work experience week in February. They had to show resilience initially in securing placements and it was lovely to see older coaches giving advice about how to do this. The feedback about the students from the employers following the work experience was wonderful to receive, they were full of praise for how maturely they handled the unfamiliar environments, and they were impressed with their communications skills with colleagues and/or customers. This is one way in which coaching helps to develop employability skills with coaches. We have had a number of other careers events take place this term including a 'speak out' workshop, careers fair and national apprenticeship week.

The school production is something I look forward to every year. This year's production was School of Rock, and it was brilliant. The dedication, over months, shown by the children is impressive. I am in awe of the children on the stage performing in front of their peers, family and friends. The standard of the production goes from strength to strength each year and the children should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved. Thank you all who came and supported the children.

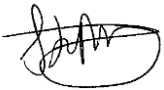
Subject departments have arranged a range of enrichment experiences for the children. This includes a theatre company in school performing Macbeth, a music trip to the Leeds Conservatoire, and a sports trip to watch the Leeds Rhinos Rugby and Netball teams. Alongside this the fierce House rivalry continues. After competitions this term in trampolining, binary, winter sports day and WHS bake off, Bremner House are currently in the lead. Still all to play for in the summer term before the final House trophy is awarded.

We have an active school council at Wetherby High School, with a coachee from each coaching group representing their group at council meetings. This term they have discussed the development of our reading facilities, additional school trips and the possibility of changes to the uniform for the hotter weather. The children have put their points across in an articulate manner taking into account a range of viewpoints. We will be reviewing the uniform in the summer term ready for when the weather gets warmer.

I hope you have enjoyed reading the OFSTED report from earlier in the term. We are particularly pleased they recognised how the school 'places pupils are the centre of all its work' and that we are 'relentless in the pursuit to build meaningful relationships'. This is how we approach everything we do to provide high quality learning experiences in and outside of the classroom. The OFSTED inspectors were glowing about the children and how they engage with each other around school. We know we can only challenge and support the students the way we do because we have your support from home, so thank you for working with us on this. Please use the Easter break to ensure your child has everything they need in relation to uniform and equipment when they return in the summer term.

I hope you have a lovely couple of weeks and we look forward welcoming the children back on 15th April.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SJA', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape.

Samantha Jefferson
Headteacher