



## Head's Blog 10th December 2018

And so the Christmas countdown begins.....School life is always hectic, though this always seems to intensify at this time of year as the excitement and sense of anticipation starts to build amongst our young people. Sometimes gentle reminders are needed that school is about education and learning and that it is important for our all of our pupils to continue with their learning at pace.

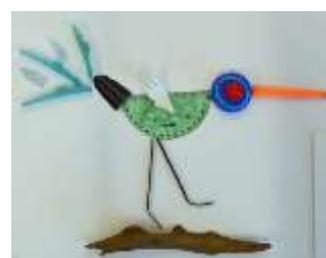
So what's happened since my last blog? The continuing focus on site security has resulted in all of external doors now being locked during the school day and are only opened at lesson change overs for a short time period and at break times and lunch time for movement around the school. This now means that visitors to the school can only access and leave the building through main reception area making the site a very safe and secure area for our staff and pupils.

The Year 11 parents' evening was well attended in November and the parents' were very appreciative of all the support and guidance that subject staff were giving them regarding the support they can give to their child to enable them to achieve their best possible grade in the Summer Exams. The year 11 pupils are just at the time of writing coming to the end of their Pre Public Exams and will be in eager wait of their papers being marked and learning from their mistakes now rather than when it's too late when they receive their GCSE results in the Summer. There are so many resources that individuals can now access at home to support their learning in school GSCEPOD, Seneca learning, Hegarty maths, eMathsMaster to name but a few. Please work with the school and continue to encourage your child to become an independent learner, working together we will achieve the best outcomes for our pupils.

We continue to improve the links between the school and home by inviting parents and carers in to share information regarding the school curriculum and how parents can support their child with their learning. Thank you to all the Year 7,8, 9 and Year 10 parents who recently attended the school's curriculum information evenings. We have received very positive feedback from the questionnaires which we asked parents to complete during the evening. All respondents agreed that they found the evening useful and the content was relevant to their needs. If you were unable to attend these evenings, you can view the presentations on the school website using the following links. [Year 7 and 8 curriculum evening presentation link](#) and [Year 9 and 10 curriculum evening presentation link](#)

Communication links via twitter feeds has increased rapidly this term and hopefully will continue to do so as we venture in to the new Year. The twitter account is @Wolstanton High. Please access the account and share and comment on the success and events in our Wolstanton High School Community.

The Y10 pupils in the art department spent a day with local artist Helena Shave learning about the impact of waste plastic on the environment. The pupils created their own art work by using plastics that had been discarded around the school grounds. As you can see in the pictures below some fabulous creations were produced by our artists.



Congratulations go to the PE department and the U16 netball team for once more becoming the Newcastle Schools Netball league champions and to the U14 team for becoming League runners up to Newcastle under Lyme School. These successes of course couldn't happen without the support from parents and carers, the commitment from the girls and of course

the work of Miss Woods in the PE Department. My thanks go out to everybody involved in making these achievements happen.



We would like to welcome Commando Ryan, a new member of staff to the Wolstanton team who will be working with us every Wednesday this academic year with a number of our pupils across all year groups on social skills, self-esteem, leadership qualities and much more.



The school breaks up for the Christmas holiday at 1pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December, with students expected back at school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The final Friday of term will be a charity fund raising day where pupils will be able to wear something “Christmassy” in return for a £1 donation the Donna Louise Trust.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity in my final blog of the calendar year to wish everybody a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. Enjoy the holiday and start 2019 re-energised and ready for an action packed and great year ahead.

Forthcoming events for December and January are:

Wednesday 19th December 6.30pm start: Celebration of Christmas evening

Thursday 10th January: Y8 parents’ evening 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Monday 14th January to Friday 25th January: Y9 internal exams (non-core subjects only)

Thursday 17th January: Y10 parents' evening 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 6th February: Parents' Forum meeting 5pm to 6pm

Mary Hobson (Head of School)