



The HENRY BEAUFORT School

At The Henry Beaufort School there are no limitations to individual success; we do not accept mediocrity or complacency
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Headteacher: Miss S Hearle

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Dear Parents

Although it has been, a short Spring term you will see from the school newsletter just how much has been packed in to the 11 weeks of school.

We have enjoyed concerts, supported sporting events, been quizzed by the Year 8 BBC News reporters, experienced a delicious cake sale from Year 11 and for the first time in 5 years had snow days!

Thank you for your support with all of these events and particularly your understanding over the snow day closures. This is always a difficult decision to make but the safety of the students and staff must come first, particularly when staff and students travel in to school from some distance.

This term I especially enjoyed accompanying a group of Year 11 students on a fact finding visit to Oxford University. We learnt about what it is like to be a student at St Edmund's Hall, Oxford and I know it inspired the students to think about their choices Post 18 and not to rule out a UCAS application with Oxford or Cambridge at the top of the form.

This is one of a number of events this academic year focusing on raising student awareness of Post 18 opportunities. Degree apprenticeships provide another opportunity for students and the range of opportunities available for study is considerable. More information on degree apprenticeships is available on the University of Winchester website [home/study/apprenticeships/what-are-degree-apprenticeships?].

A growing issue that we have been tackling this term is the inappropriate use of social media amongst students. Regrettably, what often starts as an issue outside of school then spills into school, disrupting the education of the young people involved and causing considerable emotional distress. This is of course unacceptable and this would never be condoned by the school. Often the issues surrounding this are complex and deeply embedded and this requires the school to invest a considerable amount of time and resources into resolving the issue for the young people and their families.

This is why the school has launched a new initiative called 'Is it OK?' The aim of this initiative is to tackle inappropriate and disrespectful behaviour whether it is on social media, in the school playground, or travelling to and from school. This kind of disrespectful behaviour stems from a minority culture in society where such behaviour is condoned. The school will continue to work with our young people through assemblies, tutor time programmes and Personal Development Days, as well as in lessons, and your support in discussing these issues with your children would be appreciated.

Every child has the right to feel safe and happy in school. We have a moral duty to ensure that this is a reality for our students. There are no quick fixes, but we remain committed to educating our young people on what is and is not acceptable in our society by providing a programme of events and activities that raise their awareness of when it is not OK.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the many students who I have had the privilege of meeting this term to award them with a Headteacher Special Recognition Badge. Students have been recognised for contributing to sport, taking part in Maths challenges, organising and taking part in charity events, providing the most incredible monologue performances in drama [well done Year 10!] to simply being outstanding students making a difference to the day-to-day life of the school.

I would also like to thank all of the students who make our school community such a positive, happy and productive place to learn. I remain incredibly proud of the efforts of our young people and the resilience they show in dealing with the many and varied challenges of being a teenager. They continue to both humble and inspire me.

I wish you a peaceful and enjoyable Easter.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S J Hearle".

Miss Hearle
Headteacher