



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PDR/JDN

17 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of our first half-term, I'm delighted to report, we have had a fantastic start to the year. Our new students in Year 7 and Year 12 have very quickly got into the swing of things and are now enjoying the fast-paced learning environment we pride ourselves on. Indeed, all our students have thrown themselves in to the demands of an academic curriculum and are progressing at a rapid rate.

However, of equal importance is our non-Latin motto, of working hard and playing hard, and it has been wonderful to see the vast majority of our students taking part in the myriad of extra-curricular opportunities we have. This year there are nearly 100 clubs and societies, covering almost any area we can think of, and our students are thriving in school by being very busy.

With one more week to go before the half-term break, please can I remind you on Thursday next week, the 24th, we will be finishing school early at 2.15pm in order to fully prepare the school for the Post 16 Open Evening. You are all very welcome to attend and we are very grateful to the many student volunteers who act as excellent ambassadors on the night. And then on Friday, 25th October, the school is closed to students as we are holding a staff training day.

Of further note to draw your attention to, once again we are supporting the Children In Need charity and this year we are holding our event on Friday 15 November. We have challenged all our students to raise at least £10 each by doing some good deeds or doing some kind of sponsored event. We are sure all our students, given some creative thought, can support the initiative and so raise a very sizeable amount for such an important charity.

Our final news is that we have recently been awarded some significant government funding to build a new 2nd floor on top of the existing Powell building which currently houses our English department. This space will allow us to remove the "temporary" MFL building, in the middle yard which will enable us to redevelop the much larger outdoor space we will gain. It has taken 3 years to get to this stage, so we are delighted our contractors are starting on site during the half-term holiday.


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We don't envisage this will cause any disruption to parents picking up and dropping off their children, but if we could ask you to be ongoing mindful of parking restrictions around school, to support our neighbours it would be much appreciated.

The success of the school has always been built on the foundations of the teamwork between, school, students and parents and once again, I would like to thank you all for your unflinching support. It is invaluable and always very much appreciated. I do hope whatever your plans for the upcoming break you get some time to relax as a family and we look forward to the new half-term starting on Monday 4 November.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Roberts".

Mr Peter Roberts

Headteacher