



Blaise High School, Station Road, Henbury, Bristol,
BS10 7QH

Tel: 0117 903 0100

email: info@blaisehighschool.co.uk

www.blaisehighschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Katherine Brown

KBO/JBI

4 October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

October has started well at Blaise High School, with a week packed with visits from prospective parents and carers and their children. Guests have arrived for tours with our phenomenal student leadership team, and it has been an absolute pleasure to see welcome them. The feedback from both these open mornings and the open evening last week has been a really positive with so many visitors leaving our gates after their tour with a firm commitment to placing us in poll-position. We are all so incredibly proud of the support, faith and trust that our community is investing in us and we look forward greatly to them joining our journey to becoming the best school in Bristol.

Our Year 11 students have been busy in their snapshot assessment sessions this week. This is the first of a brace of assessments that will track their progress and allow our staff to streamline bespoke support for each individual student, as they move through the year toward their final GCSE exams. Their conduct under pressure, support for each other and commitment to success has been nothing short of exemplary, a strength of character that is fast becoming the signature trait of all of our students.

Last Friday Ms Griffiths and Mr Peach took our amazing year 7 girls rugby squad out to a Bristol wide tournament. This was the first time the girls played together, and for many of them the first time they've played rugby. Despite being novices, they did exceptionally well and achieved a silver position. In particular I want to note that the staff were glowing in their report of how well behaved and professional the students were. They truly did themselves proud.

This week has seen the final rounds of auditions for our upcoming Performing Arts show. I'm very excited to announce that we will be performing "We will rock you"! Ms Harper, Ms Evans and Ms Stone have been working incredibly hard to review the dancing, singing and acting talents of our wonderful student body. They've been really impressed with the talent they've seen and will be confirming roles next week. Those involved will be rehearsing every Tuesday after school ready for the performance in February.

It has been a busy week in the library, with 8JBA finishing *Animal Farm* by George Orwell and moving on to *Rook* by Anthony McGowan. We now have an author as an official penpal! Students will be exchanging postcards with Bex Hogan throughout the year. These will have messages about her debut book, *Viper*, and recommendations from both sides on which books to read! @bookpenpals. Thursday was National Poetry Day with the theme of Truth. Several poems written especially for the day were read with the students across school, sparking lots of interesting conversations; the planet (Greta Thunberg), the truth and lies (mental health).

Continued

The Bristol Teen Book Award 2019 shortlist has been announced! Students in Yrs9/10/11 are invited to read the shortlist of 6 new titles, celebrating diversity, vote on their favourite and have the chance to attend the award-giving ceremony to meet all six authors! Ask Miss Middleton for details.

Finally, this week I had an excellent opportunity to meet with Caterlink, who are the company that provide our daily canteen service. Feedback from staff and students is that the food is really delicious but that the service at times can be slower than we would like. It's important to me that we ensure all students have an enjoyable lunchtime, including getting the food they want and having a proper amount of time to eat it. This is why I met with the team to solve this issue directly. I'm pleased to report that the Caterlink team were incredibly reflective and solution driven. They certainly want to ensure that they provide an excellent service to us. We've agreed on some much more efficient serving systems, hiring more staff and ensuring that the pay points are all working. I'm confident that this will help to address our concerns.

Yours faithfully



Ms K Brown
Headteacher