

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families have had a good week.

Thank you for your patience and understanding with this week's industrial action. Despite not having some of their usual teachers, the students who attended school worked well on the day. We are not aware of any further planned industrial action at this stage but will of course keep you informed.

We have been excited to re-launch our Word of the Week initiative with students this week. As a school we have been explaining the importance of having a rich and varied vocabulary. Each week students will learn the meaning, origins and synonyms of a word and are encouraged to use the word in their lessons that week. Many students have received house points for demonstrating their word prowess this week. This week's word was treacherous, which seemed very fitting given the snow and ice we have had recently! Please discuss the Word of the Week at home and encourage your son/daughter to use as wide a vocabulary as possible. Each week the school's Instagram account will share the word we have been focusing on.

With two weeks to go until the Easter break, it is always worth reflecting with your son/daughter on what else they can do to make a difference, to get the most out of what is on offer during their time at school. It is always the taking part that matters! Does your child attend an extra-curricular club? Does your child check the Able and Ambitious Google Classroom page regularly to see what competitions or other opportunities are available? Mr Bottrill is always available to speak about this with your child. Is your child interested in a leadership opportunity? If so, please remind your child to speak to Mrs Watson about how s/he can get involved. Please encourage your son/daughter to get involved in the many opportunities available. It is the 'extra' that they very often remember, and also the 'extra' that enables key skills to develop as well as helping them to stand out when applying for college/apprenticeships/jobs.

On Monday students in years 8, 9 and 10 took part in a Knife Crime Awareness morning as part of an initiative run by WCC Community Safety Partnership & Warwickshire PCC. The event was delivered by anti-knife crime activist Alison Cope – whose son was murdered 9 years ago in Birmingham. He was an up and coming grime/rap artist and was well known on the scene. Alison tells the very moving story of her son's life and the devastating consequences of carrying a knife and youth violence. She also talked about the negative side of social media. Alison has delivered workshops to over a million young people in England and is very well regarded. Her story really hit home and had a massive impact on the young people. It was one of the most powerful messages of anti-knife crime we have had in school. 30 students from years 8 and 9 were also chosen to take part in a workshop with youth workers to develop poetry or songs around the topic of knife crime, anti-social behaviour and social media. Thank you to Mrs Mitchell for arranging the event.



Last week, the Geography Department took the Year 12 A-Level Geography students to Norfolk to conduct some fieldwork. They did a great job despite the challenging weather conditions; especially for their coastal studies! Even though there was wind, rain and snow, the weather did not dampen their spirits!! They were well disciplined, completed the work to the best of their ability and were a real credit to the school. Thank you to Mr Turley for organising the trip and Mrs Clempson and Mrs Bowers for also accompanying the students.

The Junior Leadership Team are organising a cultural day and bake sale on Thursday 30th March to help promote discussion around diversity and celebrate the different cultures within our school community. This will involve a non-uniform day and bake sale. As part of the non-uniform day students are encouraged to wear something to represent their own culture. This could be national dress, an item of clothing often worn in a country close to their heart, a sports top of their national team (i.e. England/Spain, not a local team such as Coventry) or the colours of their national flag (i.e. red, white and blue for the UK). We are also looking for students, parents and teachers to bake/cook something tasty from their home culture to sell at break time. We know that this event will be during Ramadan so there will be takeaway plates available to enjoy food at home if pupils prefer. Please look out for further details in a letter next week.

Next week voting for our new Junior Leadership Team will be going live. There was a strong field of candidates that applied for the roles but eventually 15 fantastic candidates were shortlisted. Please can you encourage your son or daughter to join the Google Classroom page and vote for their preferred candidate using the following code: wjwkxsb. We will update you in a future newsletter as to who has been successful in gaining places on the new JLT.

Some of our Year 9 students visited Coventry University this week to take part in a Music workshop. This was an excellent opportunity to get a taste of what a higher education institution can offer for our students. There will be further opportunities such as this available in the coming months.

In sports news, the Year 7/8 girls football team came 3rd in the school games competition after winning 1, drawing 2 and losing 2 games. The Year 8 boys rugby team won their friendly match against Nicolas Chamberlaine – 5 tries to 2. Year 11 boys football team won 2–0 against Polesworth in their final school match. Well done to all of our sports teams.

Finally, a reminder that our INSET Day which was due to take place on Monday 17th April will now take place on Friday 21st April. Students will return to school after the Easter break on at 8.35am on Monday 17th April.

I hope that you and your family have a good weekend.

Kind regards,

Acting Headteacher

# Dates for your diary

17th March - Year 10 Personal Development Day 20th March - Year 8 HPV 1 Vaccinations
21st March - Year 9 Personal Development Day 22nd March - Year 9 HPV 2 Vaccinations
23rd March - Year 8 HPV 1 Vaccinations / Year 9 HPV 2 Vaccinations
30th March - Year 11 Student Progress Evening 31st March - End of Spring Term



# Bulletin board

#### WHOLE SCHOOL:

# **Lost Property**

Student Services have a number of coats and PE kits which have been misplaced. Further descriptions of the PE bags can be found on Sharepoint. If your child has lost any of these items please ask them to come and see the Student Services staff.

#### **YEAR 8:**

# Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

The Immunisation Team will be in school on Monday 20th March and Tuesday 21st March to administer the initial dose of HPV vaccination to Year 8 students. The vaccination sessions will be held in the School Library over the 2 days. To enable your child to receive this vaccination an electronic consent form must be completed. The link to the electronic form has been emailed from the school last week. Please note that the link for this consent form will close on Sunday 12th March. If you require any further information or have any concerns you can contact the North Warwickshire Immunisation Team on 02476 321550.

#### **YEAR 9:**

# Year 9 HPV Vaccinations

The Immunisation Team will be in school on Tuesday 21st March and Wednesday 22nd March to administer the second dose of HPV vaccination to all Year 9 students (where consent was given) The vaccination sessions will be held in the School Library over the 2 days. A letter has been emailed to you from the school with information about these vaccinations. If you require any information or have any concerns you can contact the North Warwickshire Immunisation Team on 02476 321550.

## **YEAR 11:**

#### KE6 Open Event on Wednesday 29 March 2023 - 4:30-7:30pm

KE6 are holding a further Open Event on Wednesday 29 March. This is to allow those students who may be interested in studying at Level 3, who did not attend the Open Events last November, an opportunity to find out about KE6 in general, get details about each individual subject/course, and have a wander around the College.

The booking system is for the Principal's Presentation only via our website, you can access this by following this link: <u>https://ke6n.ac.uk/open-event-2023/</u> Please book a place for each individual attending the presentation. Presentation times are 5:15pm and 6:00pm.

Applications are open, please visit the website to apply directly-<u>www.keón.ac.uk/Apply</u> Should you have any queries regarding the events please contact the Admissions Team on 024 7632 8231 or admissions@keón.ac.uk.





## YEARS 7 AND 8:

NWActive are once again running their Easter holiday Super Multi Activity Sports Holiday (SMASH) camp at the Pingles Stadium for ages 5–13.

Eligible pupils (FSM/most PP/vulnerable pupils) can access 4 days of activity for free over the 2 weeks, with lunch included and free fruit all day! Pupils should only be able to access 4 hours however they are accepting full days for no additional cost. Parents should have received their HAF code directly from WCC. In addition, given the current economic situation, we have frozen our prices for pupils not eligible for HAF at just £15 per day or £2.50 an hour!!

To book visit www.thepinglesstadium.com > select book online dropdown > holiday camps > SMASH #23 HAF booking



Don't forget - all of our Careers and Apprenticeship information can be found on our website! <u>Click here</u> to view more information on a variety of exciting opportunities!

