October 2019

Another busy half term comes to an end; parents and staff are heard commenting upon ‘how quickly it went’. The reason why times flies at George Salter is because so much goes on in our academic weeks.

We have had a hugely successful PSHE Day which saw young people engaged in various activities from interviewing business leaders, reflecting upon action taken to protect the environment, writing university applications to learning the basics of First Aid. I particularly enjoyed the British Values work undertaken by Year 8 which saw them inventing a country with its own traditions, economy, national anthem and flag. I am passionate about young people having an opinion on political matters and was fascinated by their views on what a democracy is, could be and should be in their discussions. Current political leaders nationally should perhaps take note!

As you would expect I have been in a lot of lessons and looked in a lot of student books this half term. Our focus on delivering core knowledge which we expect all students to master is working well in what I have seen. Recently:

- in the Science department Miss Lindburgh continued to bamboozle me with terminology and processes which the students simply absorbed
- Miss Raven in the DT department encouraged me to reflect on the design process and particularly the theme of aesthetics which the students explore further with reference to the suits I wear
- I have been enthralled by the beautiful harmonies in a post 16 Music lesson with Mrs Jones which left me smiling and joyful

On a similar theme I interviewed our candidates for 6th Form Students Union President and Vice Presidents. What an articulate, confident and thoughtful group of young people they are. Well done to all who were successful in securing leadership roles; I know that you will change our school and wider community for the better.

Our young people have also been involved in a plethora of activities outside of school. Our sports teams continue to enjoy very a fruitful time in their respective sports – well done in particular the Year 10 girls’ football team for their recent achievements. At the start of this term I took part in the Year 7 walk over the Clent Hills. A big thank you to Mr Cadwallader for organising this event which saw every child finish what was a gruelling walk in glorious Worcestershire. We expect all students at George Salter to climb an academic mountain in their time at George Salter, these Year 7 students did so physically – well done to you all!

In the last two weeks we have held parents’ evenings for Year 11 and Year 12/13 students. Attendance is good and growing but I can I please ask you to take note of the following dates in order to make sure that we keep on getting bigger numbers through our doors on these evenings:

- Wednesday 15th January 2020 – Year 9 Options Evening
- Wednesday 29th January 2020 – Year 11 Parents’ Evening
- Wednesday 26th February 2020 – Year 12 & 13 Parents’ Evening
Wednesday 6th May 2020 – Year 9 Parents’ Evening
Wednesday 13th May 2020 – Year 10 Parents’ Evening
Wednesday 24th June 2020 – Year 7 Parents’ Evening

As always we value your support immensely.

Next half term will start off well as we will open our new classroom block in the second week. I am sure that the young people will just love the modern, airy classrooms and great facilities. They will also enjoy the extra space at break and lunch I am sure.

As the colder weather approaches can I remind parents about our very sensible school rules regarding a plain black coat and punishable black leather shoes which will afford warmth as well as looking good? Please do also bear in mind our academy rules regarding haircuts, piercings and jewellery.

Thank you for your support. ‘Onwards and upwards’

Adrian Price
Principal