

27th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a very wet and windy week but the inclement weather has done little to dampen the spirits of our wonderful students.

Mr Finan led assemblies for all year groups which centered on the theme of European Languages Day which took place on Thursday. He started by talking to students about the importance of good communication skills before informing students that there are 10 different indigenous languages in use across the British Isles alone. Mr Finan made important links between the celebration and fundamental British values of tolerance and respect. As usual, the students all engaged well with the content and were all encouraged to go away and practise their language skills on Duolingo.

Year 11s have been hard at work with a number of students completing their external assessment for food and technology. It was also great to see that the significant majority of Year 11s had completed all homework set which I mentioned was key priority at the Class of 2025 launch evening. There have been a couple of IT issues with the Microsoft Form for English and so discretion has been used with regards to the Year 11 homework detention. We hope to have all of these issues ironed out very swiftly but if your child experiences any issues, please email their teacher directly.

Mr Rogers met with our Head Students to discuss plans for the school leadership team this academic year. They will be looking to recruit a Montsaye Community Contribution Team who will undertake a number of activities within the local community. I am genuinely excited about this team and I am looking forward to seeing which students are keen to be a part of it.

On Thursday evening, we welcomed Year 12 parents into the academy to meet with their children's Form Tutors for an important update on how they have started the year. The evening gave parents and carers an insight into the year ahead and how best to support their children with the transition into Key Stage 5 studies.

On Friday, Mrs Brotherston put a huge amount of effort into preparing a vast array of cakes and pastries for the annual Macmillan Coffee morning. Huge numbers of students attended the library to take their pick from the wonderful selection. A big thank you also to a couple of parents who also contributed cakes for the fundraiser – it is much appreciated.

Looking ahead to next week, we have our SEND information evening on Monday in which we will also be looking for parents to share feedback on what the school does well and what could be improved going forward in relation to our



SEND provision. It would be great to see as many parents and carers as possible at this evening so that we can gather as accurate a picture as possible.

In relation to weekly successes, the top 3 tutor groups for attendance this week are:

3rd place – Mrs Brotherston – 8GDB – 95.2%

2nd place – Mr Whitfield – 8AWH – 96%

1st place – Mr Beet – 7JOB – 99%

The top 3 praise point earners were:

3rd place – Kalana E – Year 7 – 23 points

2nd place – Olivia E – Year 8 – 24 points

1st place – Jacob M – Year 7 – 26 points

Have a pleasant weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mr B Baines
Principal