

FINHAM PARK SCHOOL

A Mathematics & Computing College



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year as part of the Finham Park School family. The holiday ended just a few days ago, yet there is much going on in the life of the school as we set the agenda for the coming year.

The building work continues as we near completion of the upgrades to the internal structure of the buildings. All doors, roofs and ceilings will be new. An outdoor gym will be installed in the next few weeks and the school's lake will be brought back into use after 13 years with pontoons and walkways to enable students to study and care for the wildlife within the habitat.

The school was re-accredited as a World Class School in July 2018, one of only sixteen other state schools in the country. This is a huge achievement by our students as they presented the bid and represented the school in front of the national panel of assessors. They embodied all that is special about our students; courageous, perseverant, humble kind whilst demonstrating great integrity in their conduct and approach.

Last year's students achieved some humbling examination results. They achieved the highest outcomes in Coventry at Post-16 by a clear 10% of A*-B grades and the best results ever for Finham. At GCSE level, the progress of students looks set to have tripled from the previous year, meaning students at our school now make much significantly better progress than their peers nationally, no matter what their starting points or ability levels. As such we have record numbers of students joining us in Year 12 with 199 students currently on roll.

To support our students in their Post-16 studies, we have created a dedicated, supervised and resourced Sixth Form Study Centre for them. Students are using this space well and are utilising the extra staff tuition that is taking place on top of normal timetabled lessons.

The lower school has also had a strong start, achieving 98% attendance in week 1 which, although is early in the academic year, underpins our school's record attendance figures for the city last year.

I wrote to you a few days ago, jointly with the Chief Superintendent of Coventry, outlining our co-operation with the police to tackle knife crime in the city. This issue was brought close to home when a member of the public was recently seen with a knife following an altercation after the end of the school day in the local area. After police and school investigations, thankfully, no student was found in possession of a knife and no knife was used. The school therefore dealt with the issue, but the need to be vigilant remains clear.

I look forward to all that this year has in store and am pleased to be working with you to help our students have the best educational experiences and outcomes possible as students of Finham Park School.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Bishop - Headteacher

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