



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Firstly I would like to say a very warm welcome to all students, new and old, to Five Acres High School. I have been hugely impressed by the attitude shown by the students over the first few days of term. The positivity and energy around the school site has been amazing and everyone looks incredibly smart in their new uniform. A huge thank you to parents for your support with this.

The first part of last week was spent in staff training, where all staff took part in some intensive workshops focussing on safeguarding, improving the quality of teaching and behaviour management. I am really pleased with the commitment shown by staff and I hope you will see the impact of their hard work very soon.

Our tutor reading programme has started, I hope you will find the time to speak to your child about the book they are reading with their tutor group. We have some real classics, traditional and modern, and I think this will be a really successful initiative.

I wanted to remind you that there will be occasions when I am fulfilling other responsibilities in my role as Director of School Improvement for the Greenshaw Learning Trust. These will be largely on a Monday and in order to ensure the same high quality of Teaching and Learning is ongoing at the school, Mrs Isabel Ambrose will work as Acting Headteacher on these days. I would like to warmly welcome her to Five Acres High School.

Finally, I am looking forward to our Year 7 bonding residential, taking place this weekend, which I hope will be the first of many extra-curricular trips and activities on offer at Five Acres High School this year.

5 ACRES 5 CORE VALUES The Senior Leadership Team at Five Acres have been tasked with finding evidence of our 5 core values among our student body. Here is what they have observed over the first few days of term:

AMBITION - I was really impressed by the **ambition** demonstrated by our Head Girl, Kayleigh Brooks and Head Boy, Todd Morris during the assemblies last week. To stand and speak in front of one's peers with such passion and clarity takes real bravery. Their ambition, both for themselves and for our school, was clear to see.

Mr Parnell



AMBITION, CONFIDENCE, CREATIVITY,
RESPECT, DETERMINATION

Proud to be
part of the
GREENSHAW
LEARNING TRUST



5 ACRES 5 CORE VALUES

CONFIDENCE - **Confidence** is an important aspect in achieving success in any environment and ensuring the students have a better chance of achieving success means we will be looking for students to build their confidence. As the term started I have been so impressed by the **confidence** the students have shown in us and what we are doing, they have really understood what we are going to achieve here. This was exemplified by a year 9 student who, having been challenged to display **confidence**, was prepared to say in front of her peers that she did not know something. This left her vulnerable and open to ridicule and in some schools this may well have happened. However, at 5 Acres High School she felt confident that this admission would be respected and in fact would help others to also indicate when they needed help. I have the utmost respect and admiration for all those students who are **confident** when they know what to do but also those who are **confident** to say 'can we do this together'. What a fantastic start.

Mr Phelps

CREATIVITY - An incredible start to life at Five Acres High School has been witnessed by staff and students alike in these first few days. An inordinate amount of work has gone on in the past few days and weeks, to ensure that every single student and member of staff have the opportunity to be **creative** in both teaching and learning. No stone has gone unturned, from the **creative** approach to maximising learning, to the classroom routines and not forgetting the new house system. All of which will enable every single member of the school community to have the opportunity to explore their **creative** side. This was witnessed first-hand last Thursday when our Year 7 students entered the library for the very first time. An innovative programme to help boost literacy and numeracy was introduced and through the **creation** of new creative classroom practice, ensured that students can improve their chances of personal success both in school and beyond.

Mr Ackland

DETERMINATION - **Determination** based upon definition can simply be described as someone who shows firmness of purpose. We were delighted to witness this in abundance on the first day of the new term for Five Acres High School. The new uniform policy was adhered to with fine detail by our students. They took upon themselves with the support of their parents and carers to ensure they started the new year looking impeccable. Students commented how they themselves felt smarter and it even made them feel physically different about being in school. A great start to the school year and we cannot wait to see the same **determination** in lessons and extra-curricular activities.

Mr Ogden

RESPECT - As a core value in our school **respect** is central to everything we do. Day one in our new school has been one that will always be remembered for the level of **respect** shown throughout the whole school. Our new Acting Head Mrs Ambrose who is working with Mr Parnell and the senior team, has arrived from her previous school in South East London and told Mr Parnell that she was overwhelmed by the welcome she received. Even before school started and before the students had any idea who she was, she was greeted by smiles and handshakes from students entering our front gate. This is true **respect** because no-one told the students to do this, they just did it; they recognise that someone is new and they simply greeted them and made them feel welcome. These are the beginnings of a new community here at Five Acres and already the foundations of values such as **respect** are clearly in place.

Mr Dowle

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SEPTEMBER

Friday 15 September – Y7 Residential Visit

Tuesday 19 September – Open Evening

Tuesday 19 – Thursday 21 – Open Mornings

Thursday 28 September – Y9 English Theatre Visit – Blood Brothers