



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL

AMBITION – CONFIDENCE – CREATIVITY – RESPECT – DETERMINATION



19 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a busy couple of weeks for all of our students, sitting their Pre Public Exams and Term 1 assessments. We have been pleased with the level of engagement shown by students and we know that allowing Year 11 students the opportunity to sit these assessments under exam conditions will stand them in good stead for the summer, when our hope is that GCSEs will be taken in the usual way. The preparation that they have put in and the confidence with which they have approached the assessments/exams has shown real ambition and a commitment to being successful. Thank you for your support in helping your children at home to achieve this.

Next week will see our Year 7-10 students continue to sit their assessments, and we will be reporting the results of all year groups to parents towards the end of this term. Our hope is to host a Celebrations Evening on site on December 16 to recognise the hard work of our students following this round of assessments.

On Monday 6 December, the vaccination team from the Gloucestershire Health and Care Foundation Trust will be attending Five Acres High School to provide Covid-19 vaccinations for students aged 12-plus. A link will be provided to parents to provide consent approximately a week ahead of the session, which will be emailed to you from the school. If you are able to book your child in for one of the drop-in sessions that are available locally before this date, please do so. We appreciate that rates in the area for Covid are very high, please continue to encourage your child to test regularly, sanitise hands as often as possible and wear a face mask if they wish to do so.

I have been impressed with the determination and effort shown by all of our students who have taken part in the numerous sporting fixtures we've either hosted or attended over the last couple of weeks. On Tuesday 30 November, we will be hosting students and staff from schools across the Greenshaw Learning Trust for our Rugby festival. Huge congratulations to Poppy, Josh and Ella who were all winners of their age-specific District races and the other 9 students who have made it through to the County trials. All of our students raced exceptionally well. Our rugby, netball and football teams continue to taste regular success, we are very proud of all of their achievements to date.

Some of you will have been made aware of the recent TikTok craze where students and others make videos of their teachers and post on the platform. It saddens us to see the malicious content that some of these videos contain about our own staff and staff from other schools. Where we have been able to, we have spoken to individual students and we are taking the unique step of contacting the local police, TikTok and teaching unions to ask for assistance in removing all of this type of content. We are pleased that most of our conversations with students have resulted in posts being removed. Please could we ask for your assistance in ensuring that your child only accesses age-appropriate social media

#BEMOREFIVE

Headteacher Simon Phelps

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platforms and that you help to reinforce the message given at school that this type of behaviour, whether about staff or others their own age, could be upsetting, is classed as harassment if it continues and could result in police involvement.

As always we are delighted when our students get to show off their confidence and respect. It was pleasing to see so many of our students and staff represent the school and their various clubs or cadets at local Remembrance parades. Our Student Leadership Team will again be representing the school at this week's Pride of Coleford awards and our Art Leadership Team will be hosting a stall at the Coleford Market on Saturday. All of these opportunities help to increase awareness of the school, but more importantly help students to develop themselves. All of our students have opportunities to develop through our Character Education programme and again we would like to thank you for the encouragement that you give to your child to gain badges. As we approach Christmas we will be sharing with you news of performances that our choir and Year 8 orchestra will be involved with. We would really appreciate you supporting your child through attending these performances, if the opportunity allows.

The school continues to flourish even in these difficult times, we are proud to serve our community and look forward to giving you further updates of what is going on, our successes and initiatives that continue to improve the school over the coming months.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Phelps' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Simon Phelps
Headteacher