

Humphrey Perkins School Cotes Road, Barrow Upon Soar, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 8JU

> 01509 412385 office@humphreyperkins.org.uk www.humphreyperkins.org.uk

Deputy CEO Jennifer Piper-Gale MA MSc **Executive Principal Laura Sanchez** Associate Principal Della Bartram

15 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although it has only been a short half-term, what a busy one it has been!

Sporting Successes

As you know, we have an incredible record for sporting success. In terms of a Lionheart Dodgeball tournament, Year 7/8 boys won all of their games as did the Year 9/10 girls with the other teams playing very well indeed. In terms of Sports Hall Athletics - 3 out of our 4 teams: Year 7 girls, Year 7 boys and Year 8 girls all won their rounds competing in South Charnwood and have qualified to go through to the Leicestershire Championships in April at Loughborough University. Our Year 10 boys are through to the Leicestershire county football knock out stages where they will play their first game in March. Our U15 mixed team won the indoor cricket tournament and are through to the County Finals. Well done to them and good luck to our Year 8/9 girls for their football match this week and our Year 10/11 girls who have a futsal tournament this week.

Performing Arts Successes

Wow, we did it again. In the Lionheart "Battle of the Bands", we took the Senior crown. Well done to our Year 10 band, Combvst. Our Year 8 band Clueless also came third in the Junior section. A special thank you to Mrs Hussey who has spent many hours with them, supporting rehearsals. We are also looking forward to our performance of "Beauty and the Beast" which will run on 27th, 28th, 29th February and 1st March at 7 pm. There will also be a performance to Hall Orchard Primary on 27th February in the afternoon. We have joined some rehearsals and the show will be amazing - please "be our guest" and watch the show. Tickets are available on Beehive.

Development - MVP, YouHQ and Student Wellbeing Week

As you know, we are always looking forward to improving our school. We have launched Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), a peer education programme to improve mental health and build resilience. We currently have 42 Year 10 mentors who are working with Year 7. Whilst it is still early days, the feedback so far has been incredibly positive. We are also trialling youHQ(a digital wellbeing and personal development app) with two tutor groups in Year 9. Last week we also had our Student Wellbeing Week involving bingo, jokes and breakfast cobs amongst other things! Thank you to Mrs Black for organising the week. Mr Cross also led our "Push for Postives" - a tutor group competition to see who could win the most reward points for effort and for working hard. The winning tutor groups were 7CD, 8PW, 9SL, 10EK and 10HM and 11DC. Well done to them!

Site Security

As you will be aware, we had a difficult incident at the end of the school day this term where the school gate was not opened promptly enough and some of our students did not respond responsibly to a challenging situation. We want to apologise again for this unfortunate incident and reassure everyone in our community that systems and processes have been carefully reviewed and we have taken the following steps:













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- Parents/Carers and the Trust were very quickly informed.
- The Local Authority Health and Safety Team was informed and all of the advice "lessons learned" has been implemented.
- All students had an assembly the following morning where an apology was given; the new protocols were
 explained; advice was given about being in a large crowd in the future (for example at a concert or at a
 sporting event) and the students were again reminded about who they can talk to if they need extra help.
- All students who either identified themselves to us or whom we have identified have received additional support.
- End of day protocols have been revised (with back up plans) and the revised risk assessment for the gates at the beginning and end of the day can be found here.
- The area in front of the gates is now deemed an out of bounds area until the gates have been safely opened. Students have also been given reminders about walking any scooters/bikes out of the site.
- All staff have been fully briefed.
- A Trust Safeguarding Review has been undertaken and all recommendations have been implemented.

Future Dates

A reminder that school opens on Monday, 26th February. Thank you to those who attended our PTFA meeting (please contact Kirsty Kirby if you would like to join), our Year 7 Parents' Evening and our Year 9 Options Evening. Other opportunities to meet with us until the Easter break are:

Thursday 7th March at 4pm - Year 6 Transition Event

Wednesday 13th March at 9am - Coffee Morning

Thursday 14th March at 6pm – Parent Ambassador Group

Please continue to follow our adventures on social media – we have so much to share with you and to celebrate. For information, we do not typically respond to external posts; however, if they are deemed untruthful or defamatory, we **will** take steps to redress the balance to portray our school in the correct manner. If a social media post raises a question you'd like answered, please contact the school directly via email or telephone.

Have a good break with your families and we look forward to welcoming back our students after the break.

Mrs D Bartram Mrs L Sanchez

O. J. Bartram Dungyanoull

Associate Principal Executive Principal









