



Head's Blog 15th February 2019

Welcome to February's blog and I can't believe we are already half way through the Spring term. Our focus this term in assemblies has been making sure our pupils are aware of the distress cyber bullying can bring to their lives and how to report it if they or someone they know have been affected by this. Here's a link to the video which was shown to the pupils so you can reinforce the message at home. [Cyber bullying video link](#)

Our teaching and learning focus this term has been making sure the quality of teaching in our classrooms is at least always good. Mr Verow, our Assistant Headteacher has overall responsibility for coordinating and leading a comprehensive monitoring programme which aims to ensure that the quality of teaching in school is always consistently high. Along with Heads of Departments, all of the senior leadership team has spent much of their time this half term carrying out learning walks and lesson observations across the school to ensure that this is achieved. Regular work reviews are also scheduled, in which the students' books are checked for quality marking and feedback. Where concerns are noted and issues raised, teachers are supported and helped by implementing tailored professional development training programmes within school. This may include providing a teacher with a coaching partner or directing them to observe experienced colleagues who are considered to be outstanding practitioners. We have also started to work more collaboratively and closely with colleagues in other Shaw Education Trust schools in sharing good practice and quality assuring each other's work. I must say that I am always overwhelmingly impressed with what I see in our classrooms as I walk around the school. Having worked at Wolstanton High School for many years, I am more than happy to assert that the quality of teaching now is the best that I have known. The aim is to continue to strive for even higher levels of consistency, to ensure that we provide our children with the best education possible. If parents or carers have concerns about any aspect of their child's education, please do not hesitate to contact in the first instance your child's form tutor.

We have continued our focus on High Expectations No Excuses regarding uniform this half term, still with a particular emphasis on wearing the correct jumpers and the expectations regarding jewelry. Thank you for supporting the school on these expectations. You can access the uniform expectations by clicking on the following link [uniform expectations](#).

The working in partnership with our parents and carers has continued to improve this half term and for the first time we have invited our Year 11 parents to become part of our Y11 results assemblies where parents were given advice on how to support their child with their preparation for the forthcoming GCSE examinations. If you were unable to attend this evening then please contact the Head of Year 11, Mrs Welch Moore for further information.

Our visitors from Slovenia, Italy, Romania and France had a truly fantastic experience at our school. They had a chance to teach a lesson about their own school and their country, visited lessons to see how good teaching is, even baked some cakes with our year 11 food technology pupils. They also visited Middleport Pottery and went to Liverpool for the day with our GCSE Photography pupils. It was a marvellous week and we are now all looking forward to the next meeting in Slovenia in May where some of our pupils will have the fabulous opportunity to experience the Culture in Slovenia. A massive thankyou to Mr Lakin for coordinating this project.



Communication links continue to improve via twitter feeds. We now have almost 700 followers who are following the school. You can access the twitter account @Wolstanton High and share and comment on the success and events in our Wolstanton High School Community.

Finally, please note that we have had to change the date of the Year 9 Options day and parents' evening from Thursday 9th March to Tuesday 19th March

Other forthcoming events are:

Year 11 Pre Public exams: Monday 25th February to Tuesday 12th March. Please click [here](#) to access the PPE exam timetable

Parents' forum: Thursday 4th April 5pm to 6pm

Year 7 parents' evening: Thursday 11th July 4pm to 7pm

Mary Hobson (Head of School)