



HALL MEAD
SCHOOL



Headteacher's Newsletter

5th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to open with wishing everyone a Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a relaxing festive break and were able to rest and recuperate over the Christmas period.

In next week's assemblies, I will be speaking to students about what this new school year could potentially hold for them and what opportunities will be on offer at school. I will be asking students to reflect on how well the Autumn Term of this academic year has been, and what tweaks they could make this year to maximise their time at school.

We welcome two new members of staff, Ms Abaji as a Teacher of Maths, and Mr Hoque as a Trainee Teacher of English, to our school community.

For our Year 11 students, the countdown until the start of their GCSEs has most definitely begun. By my calculation, it is only 125 days until the first GCSE exam. Assistant Headteacher Mr Leslie has arranged a whole schedule of additional intervention classes which students can make use of so I would strongly recommend, if you are the parent/carer of a Year 11 student, that you encourage your child to look at this and create their own timetable of the extra classes that they should be attending. The Year 11 Parents' Evening is scheduled for Thursday 18th January and will provide the perfect opportunity for parents/carers to discuss everything we have on offer. The Year 11s will be enjoying a different style of form-time programme to help prepare them for their exams. They will be given additional help and support on how to revise, how to write successfully under timed conditions and how to look after themselves over the course of the next few months.

Please can I ask you have a look at this term's calendar of events which is published on our website: [Events from January 26th - May 21st - Hall Mead School](#) and just another reminder that we are closed to all students for our INSET Day on Friday 26th January 2024.

I would like to thank Shirley Ward, of Shirley Tours, for her generous donation of £700 to the school, and specifically the Art and English Departments. Shirley has been a long-term supporter of Hall Mead and has donated each year a considerable sum to the school which we have been able to use to offer some exciting workshops such as last year's Red Medusa's poetry presentation. Shirley runs a company which organises different trips, to various places, so she can support schools and a number of charities. Please check her website out: [Shirley Tours](#). Thank you again Shirley for your kind donation.

To close, I would like to share how much I am looking forward to this Spring Term and building upon the successes and hard work of our Autumn Term and, as always, wish to thank our parents/carers, staff, governors and amazing students for making our Hall Mead community such a special group of people.

Thanks again.

Miss Ducker