

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope this finds you well at the end of a very chilly week and hope you have not been affected by the snow in anything except a positive way!

Attendance at school is important whatever the weather and the rewards cabinet is filling up ready for our big Christmas draw! There is no catching Year 8 again this week so let's have a big push from other year groups to try to reach their heady heights!

Thank you to those parents and carers who have taken the time to respond to their individual #PINDARPositives emails - your replies really are much appreciated. Thank you also to all families who have responded to our Pindar Press survey - we are really grateful for your feedback and look forward to the Christmas edition of our newsletter!

As ever, staff have shared their reasons to be cheerful on a Friday afternoon! Miss Petts was a Proud Head of Year this week as she got the opportunity to watch the Year 7 boys play basketball in an inter school tournament. The boys played really well and worked brilliantly as a team. Despite the cold snap, many sporting activities still take place so do encourage your child to get involved!

In technology subjects, Miss Petts was very impressed with the work ethic shown by her Year 8 Food Technology class during their practical session. Everyone worked as a team to produce excellent food and get the kitchen really tidy. Miss Petts would again like to congratulate her Year 11 Engineers for their continued hard work; this is definitely paying off as she is starting to see completed products - I look forward to seeing them too! Mrs Prentice asked me to say thankyou to our local community for supporting our Year 11 construction students by donating plasterboard, tiles, paint and grout for their practical assessments; it is very much appreciated. She also wanted to say well done to her Year 10 construction class who have been mastering how to draw formal working drawings using drawing boards and set squares - very impressive!

In creative subjects, Miss Mills wanted to say a huge well done to 7A3 who showed phenomenal determination in their first keyboard lesson in music. Congratulations too to Miss Mills' Y8 guitarists who did fantastically in their first session this week. It's not long until our Carols by Candlelight performance - I hope many of you can attend on the 11th December with tickets available from reception.

In the EBacc set of subjects, Miss Mills also wanted to highlight that she was very impressed with 7A1's focus in French today. The atmosphere was extremely studious and everyone managed an excellent piece of writing. It was another exciting week in the languages department and Miss Mills asked me to say well done to the Year 9 students who took part in the "Why Learn Languages" session on Tuesday with the British Council and who listened very respectfully to the three speakers who told us about their experiences in life and work

using languages. Mr Raisin asked me to say well done to 8a/Sc1 who have done some brilliant work with magnets in this Science this week. In Key Stage Four, he asked me to say well done to 10s/Sc5 who have tried so hard this last week in a really tricky Chemistry topic (atomic structure). They have shown resilience and made Mr Raisin really proud of not only their effort, but also their behaviour and bookwork. Mrs Barraclough also wanted to shout out to her Y7 history class who have shown brilliant recall in their lessons this week!

Our Year 11s are getting back into normal lessons after two weeks of PPEs or 'mock' exams; Mr Raisin wanted to say well done to 11s/Sc2 who behaved impeccably in their PPEs and have now returned to lessons with a fantastic attitude, raring to go for 2024. They are always ready for learning and have coped brilliantly with a staffing change mid-year. Keep up the great work! Mr Phillips also asked me to send out a whole class #PindarPositive on behalf of a fantastic Year 11 Maths class he had the privilege of assisting with on Wednesday. The class followed Mr Smith's tuition with great respect and interacted fully at every opportunity. It was wonderful to see and bodes well for the future as we focus on next summer's GCSEs! Well done Year 11!

I hope you have enjoyed this week's edition of the #PINDARPositives email and look forward to reporting on another good week soon!

With every good wish Lesley Welsh

Principal