

The Oldershaw School

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22nd December 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

As the term draws to a close, there is much to celebrate and look forward to. This week students have been rewarded for their efforts and demonstration of our school values; certificates and prizes have been awarded and trips and activities arranged. The sense of achievement and culture of positive noticing has been felt throughout the school community.

Students have been busy sharing positivity within the local area. Our Christmas card competition was a pleasure to judge, with the combination of winning entries being designed as one card and taken to local care homes, along with bespoke designs by our Year 11 students, bringing a smile to the faces of members of our community. Our work in the community has continued to develop as students support Bidston Farm, helping in all areas on conservation. We are looking forward to embedding new projects within our community in the near future.

Donations for the Christmas hampers have been generous once again, families have shown their generosity and kindness in ensuring our friends and families in need of a little help, receive plentiful hampers this year. The Oldershaw team have enjoyed making the deliveries this week, again bringing positivity to the community, and building relationships.

I have continued to be welcomed by members of the wider school community and have enjoyed meeting many parents and carers at information evenings throughout the term. The messages of thanks that have been sent to share with members of the school team have been gratefully received as teachers and operation staff endeavour to do all they can for students and families.

There have been many developments this term, including a new feedback and assessment policy that encourages students to act on feedback and reflect on their learning. Students have shared their thoughts on this process and have been positive about how they have received advice and considered next steps in their learning journey. Teachers have been focussing on the learning cycle and have put into practice steps that support metacognition and student development.

We look forward to welcoming new members to the team in the new year. A new Faculty Lead for Science joins us alongside two new science teachers. We will also welcome maths teachers and operations staff as our team progresses. We will be launching our new homework policy, giving clear guidance and support for students in their independent learning and activities, following parent and student focus groups. Thank you to all who participated in the discussion; working together we can achieve the best for our students.

Our extra-curricular activity timetable will be launched in the new term and we hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Student Leadership programmes will be developed as many of our students look to enhance their skills and support others. Year 11 students will be running advice and guidance sessions for younger students covering resilience, pride and kindness, highlighting our school values whilst being exemplary role models.

We return to school at 8.30am on Monday 8th January 2024. Please support our high expectations by ensuring that students have the correct uniform, including jewellery and footwear, alongside all equipment needed for learning.

I wish you a restful Christmas break and New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs R Sagar
Head of School

