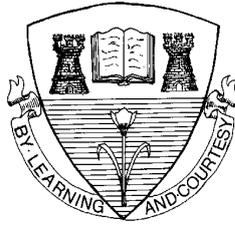


HARLAW



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31 May 2017

Dear Parent,

As you will be aware we are starting the new timetable and welcoming seniors back from study leave this week. I have met all pupils at assemblies and took the opportunity to look back on things and to re-affirm some expectations going forward.

In the case of our new S4, S5 and S6 I spoke about the many positive things we had to look back on. I have had a lot of positive feedback from employers from the Work experience week and praise from the invigilators on how seniors approached their exams.

I also asked them to reflect on things we need to be doing better. We need to reduce; the cruel/offensive behaviour of youngsters to each other (in the community and on-line) and the daily disruption to some classes. We need to increase attendance, punctuality, ambition and productivity.

At the assembly I emphasised our heightened expectations around our 3 behaviour statements: **respect people, respect learning, respect community**. I also re-emphasised the idea of **“best work, first time, on time, every time”**. Missing deadlines and doing just enough is not good enough and it creates more work for both the teacher and the pupil.

In the assemblies I also mentioned two aspects around safety:

- **School Security** – With the heightened terror concerns in the UK I have to ensure that the only people in the school are those who are supposed to be. With that in mind all seniors are required to wear the senior school uniform (see attached letter). They are also required to register for form time and class, sign in at the office if late and sign out at the office if they have an appointment.
- **Allergies/fears** – From this week we will have two dogs in the school. One is a therapist who will work with some groups to help with their learning. The other is a guide dog who will be with a new Computing teacher who is starting with us. If your child is allergic to, or fearful of, dogs please let the office or Guidance teacher know. We will have to make some adjustments around where pupils can leave bags/sit to ensure the teacher and guide dog can move safely through the school.

My overall message to the new senior pupils was positive and ambitious. We expect the highest standards of work, behaviour, attendance and appearance. This is a message which we need all our pupils and parents to support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Innes', with a horizontal line underneath.

David Innes
Head Teacher