

14th December 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Principal's Newsletter

It has been a busy and successful term once more for the students and staff at Phoenix Park and Sevenhills Academy and I would like to share with you some of the highlights.

I would like to start off by thanking those of you who were able to attend our Review Days over the last couple of weeks. It was wonderful that so many of you came and were able to and to share your views and opinions of the education and support we deliver. I was delighted with the feedback we received from the parents and carers who attended.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that if you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's education or progress, we want to hear from you. We are always trying to look to improve our communication with home and to that end we would like to remind you that our websites can be found at: <http://phoenixparkacademy.co.uk/> and <http://sevenhillsacademy.co.uk/>

I have been very impressed by what I have seen from our young people this half term, both in the achievements they have made with their learning and the way in which so many of them are managing their own behaviour. Some headline achievements are:



60 Shoeboxes for charity



Attendance at the cenotaph and civic offices for Remembrance day



Operational motor vehicle workshop



A range of fantastic Art work



£300 raised for Children in

MERRY CHRISTMAS

It's that time of year again and it is definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Staff and students at Sevenhills are feeling the festive spirit and there are many plans ahead to ensure that the students enjoy this special time of the year and also spread a little happiness around the local community. A Christmas baking extravaganza has been organised enabling students at the Academy to visit the local residential home and deliver Christmas treats and baked goods to the elderly; reinforcing the positive values of respect and kindness which we instil during the rest of the year. Our creatively minded students have also been working hard to produce handmade cards to deliver to our neighbours and local businesses. Homemade is best!

The art work produced this year has been a real high point of the term. Michelle Bradley has worked tirelessly with students producing art work which is simply spectacular and has been celebrated as such on Twitter (and my office wall...) – with praise reaching students from all over the country.

During the second half of the term, we have introduced some more creative ways to add to the already varied academic timetable. Students have been enjoying nature walks, additional sports sessions, ice-skating and trips to the college to look at post-16 options and to have guided tours around the premises. After Christmas, these activities are also going to include parkour-style gymnastic sessions, trampoline lessons, boxing and woodcraft. There is definitely something for everyone to look forward to in 2017.

Once again, we have had some amazing results from students sitting qualifications early. So far we have 4 students who have achieved an 'A' grade in finance and 2 students who have achieved a 'B' grade: well done to Donna Hilton and these dedicated young people. We eagerly await the results of the other students who have sat examinations early.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, students, parents/carers and our student council, for the amazing efforts and contributions made to our Children in Need and Christmas shoe box appeals. In total, we raised £230 and collected 20 shoe boxes. This is such an achievement. Well done everyone.

I would also like to thank all parents/carers for attending our end of term review day and leaving such positive feedback about the Academy. As ever, it was a huge success and we truly appreciate the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the young people who attend Sevenhills Academy.

We are pleased to welcome Pete McLeod to our team as our Link Governor for community issues and I will leave the final word in our newsletter to him.

All staff at Sevenhills would like to wish you all *Very Merry Christmas* and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mrs J Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Smith".

Head of Centre
Sevenhills Academy

Pete McLeod

I joined the governing body of Phoenix Park and Sevenhills in July 2016 and have also taken on the role of Link Governor for community issues. My role is to work with the academies to highlight areas of best practice and areas for development within the wider community. I also think it is important to make sure that the governor profile is increased and my first priority is to make sure students, staff, parents and members of the public become more aware of who the governing body is and what they do.



Although new to the role of being a school governor I have already been impressed by the passion and support of the staff who work in the academies. I have also witnessed some fantastic community based activities with the students on the recent Children In Need event at Sevenhills.

Outside of work, my hobbies are cycling and running and in 2017 I have entered for my first marathon and triathlon!

On behalf of the governing body I would like to wish everyone a *Very Merry Christmas* and prosperous new year.

We will see all pupils back at school on **Wednesday 4th January 2017** as we are closed for staff training on Tuesday 3rd January.

Thank you for your continued support, have a great Christmas.

Kind regards and ho ho ho,

Phil Hutchinson

Mr P Hutchinson
Executive Principal
Phoenix Park and Sevenhills Academy

