



Rawmarsh Community School



Executive Headteacher: Helen O'Brien BSc. Hons.
Associate Headteacher: Matthew Turton BA.
Associate Deputy Headteacher: Mark Conlin BSc. Hons.

December 2019

Dear Parent

Arrangements for the Last Day of Term – Friday 20th December 2019

As we approach the Christmas holidays we would like to give you advance notice of our intention to close early on Friday 20th December 2019.

As we have done in previous years, on Friday 20th December, lessons 1 and 2 will be as normal and lunchtime will be between 11.40 a.m. and 12.10 p.m. At 12.10 p.m., instead of going to lesson 3, all students will go to their Form Room and be registered by their Form Tutor. All students will then be escorted from the site leaving at around 12.20 p.m. School re-opens on Monday 6th January 2020.

Some Highlights to Recognise from our First Term

As I have said on many occasions, Performing Arts is central to the Rawmarsh Way and plays a crucial role in establishing our high challenge, low fear culture. This permeates throughout the school. This week our talented students put on a wonderful production of Beauty and the Beast. It is an absolute privilege to see our students performing to such a professional standard and once again, they have done us all proud. R-Factor has grown year on year and is an event that displays the breadth of talent within our school. Auditions begin next week in the run up to the final showcase in February, which we are all looking forward to.

I would like to thank all parents for their support over this first term in regard to the introduction of our new school trousers. We believe that school uniform, school performance and student outcomes are fundamentally linked and it is a pleasure to see all our students **taking pride in their appearance** in line with the Rawmarsh Way. Any student not in correct uniform from January risks being isolated from lessons. Having listened to your concerns, we have worked with our preferred supplier, Pinders Schoolwear, to introduce a new high-waist trouser. I am pleased to inform you that these are in stock and available to purchase.

In order to challenge our students to dream big we have a comprehensive careers programme. Our recent Year 11 Careers & Employability Day saw volunteer visitors from over 20 local organisations in school, working to support our students with regard to developing employability skills and making informed post-16 choices. In addition to each Year 11 student experiencing an individual mock interview with a visitor, they were also able to take part in information sessions on apprenticeships, writing personal statements, searching and applying for courses and even thinking further ahead with regard to University or Advanced and Degree Apprenticeships. Another enriching experience involved our Year 10 students, looking at options regarding their next stage of employment, education and training. All students throughout the day, and families during parents' evening, had exposure to our HeppSY bus where they looked at post 16 progression.

On Monday 11th November at 11am, as a school we marked our Remembrance Service for Armistice Day by holding a two-minute silence. We were fortunate to have the Last Post played by Kalem Cutts from Year 11, and Miss Forshaw from the Music Department. Along with Kalem, Matthew Burkinshaw in Year 11 and Deacon Morris in Year 9 represented their cadet unit superbly.

We have had a successful term on a sporting front where our students demonstrated the Rawmarsh Way by **taking risks and rising to challenges**. Our Year 8 badminton team have qualified for the South Yorkshire Championships in February. Furthermore, Mischa Walsh, Marci Walsh, Hannah Senior and Sophie Fisher have been selected to represent Rotherham at the South Yorkshire Cross Country Championships next year. Finally, on a football front our Year 7 students reached round 4 of the National Schools' Cup and are still competing in the South Yorkshire and Rotherham Schools.

In the Rotherham Schools' Cup competition, our Year 10 footballers have an upcoming quarterfinal and the Year 11 team defeated Wickersley and are away to Wath on Wednesday 18th December in the semi-final. We wish all our students all the best in their upcoming sporting challenges.

Rawmarsh Community School
Monkwood Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, S62 7GA
Tel: 01709 710672 Fax: 01709 710078
Email: rcsmail@rawmarsh.org Web: www.rawmarsh.org

"We want to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their part in it".



Thank you to all parents and students who have contributed to our 'Gift of Giving' Christmas Appeal. We have seen a huge number of donations to give to a local foodbank in order to help the less fortunate. The significant contributions we have seen reinforce the Rawmarsh Way and demonstrate how we **support others around us**.

We expect all our students to **work hard and never give less than best**. As part of our Year 7 curriculum enrichment in English, we were fortunate to have the author of a series of Doctor Who novels, Daniel Blythe, visit school. Students from across the year group took part in the day's activities, which included the workshops: 'Dr Who - script, screen and story,' 'Outrageous Openings' and 'Wondrous Worlds.' A packed Main Hall then learnt all about Daniel's experiences as a writer. The day ended with eager students (and staff) getting to meet Daniel one to one for a book signing. With titles including 'Exiles,' 'Emerald Greene' as well as 'Autonomy' from the Dr Who series, Daniel captured the imaginations of our budding young writers.

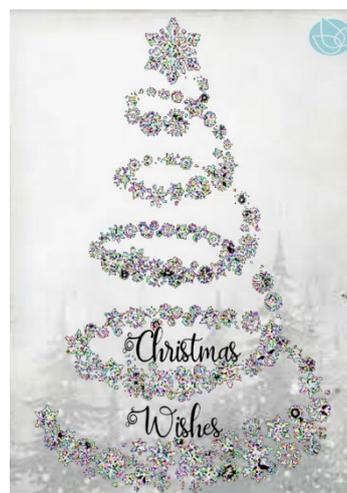
It was a pleasure to see our students taking part in the inaugural Wickersley Partnership Trust Christmas Card Competition. The final designs show the care, dedication and aptitude our students have for Creative Arts. Some of the fantastic designs that demonstrate how our students **believe in themselves** are below.



Calum Outram 10.3



Mia Woodcock 10.2



Amber Riley 10.2

On Thursday 28th November, 38 of our Year 7 students set off to visit France for the Christmas Market Trip. Students were fortunate to experience a chocolatier workshop, the famous Amiens Christmas Market, a baguette bake-off and the Cathédrale Notre-Dame d'Amiens. All the students had a wonderful time and represented the school in the Rawmarsh Way.

Since September there has been a huge number of students completing activities on SAM learning. I'd like to congratulate those students who are working hard to develop their understanding of their subjects at home. 89% of students in the school are active on the website, and over 7,500 hours have been completed already!

Once again, our Duke of Edinburgh participation continues to grow. The focus this term was on preparing our Year 10 students for their Silver expeditions. In late October they not only had to deal with the challenge of dropping temperatures but also with the nights drawing in they had to make sure they had arrived at camp and got their tents up before it got dark. We are very proud of all our Duke of Edinburgh participants.

We thank you for your on-going support and, on behalf of everyone at Rawmarsh, I wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and a happy and successful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Helen O'Brien
Executive Headteacher

Matthew Turton
Associate Headteacher