



# Nether Stowe School

**Headteacher: Glyn Langston-Jones**

St Chad's Road  
Lichfield, Staffordshire  
WS13 7NB

**Tel:** 01543 263446 & 263487

**Fax:** 01543 414602

January 19

Dear Parent/Carer,

The start of a new year and term is always a good opportunity to provide an update on the exciting work going on in school and some important information.

## Academy conversion

As I am sure you will be aware, Nether Stowe entered an exciting new era as a proud member of the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. Effectively, this means that we are a brand-new school, with no current Ofsted judgement. We are really thrilled to be a member of the partnership and to be able to work alongside colleagues with the same drive and determination to improve standards and provide the best possible experiences for all of our pupils. We are excited about what the future holds and the great impact this will have on all of our pupils and the wider school community.

## Extra-curricular

School isn't just about what happens in the lesson; it's about the experiences and opportunities we provide for our pupils every week beyond the classroom. Accordingly, we are challenging ourselves to develop our extra-curricular provision to be outstanding and as well as the wealth of opportunities outlined below, we have a number of plans to improve our offer in the future. Please take every opportunity to get involved!

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- ACASTOWE: school choir
- Very Little Big Band
- Guitar Club
- Soul Band
- Dance
- 'Parlez Plus Fort': Year 11 French
- Year 10 Speaking Practice
- French Boulogne visit (Y7)
- School show: School of Rock
- Lichfield Mysteries
- Author Visits
- Maths Challenge
- Maths STEM: Lake District
- Visit to the Houses of Parliament
- Skiing
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Athletics
- GCSE Photography and Art boosters sessions
- Sutton Trust University residentials
- Maths: Imperial College, London
- Rounders
- Sri Lanka visit

Email: [office@netherstowe.com](mailto:office@netherstowe.com) Website: [www.netherstowe.com](http://www.netherstowe.com) Twitter: @netherstowe



NETHER STOWE  
SCHOOL



- Birmingham University Maths lectures
- Tate Modern and Tate Britain visits
- Stafford College Art and Design workshops
- GCSE Astronomy
- History revision
- Weekly RE revision
- Science Big Bang
- Textiles club
- Trampolining
- Netball
- Handball
- Fitness
- Basketball
- Table Tennis
- GCSE PE and A Level PE booster sessions

## **Rewards**

Reward and praise are the main themes for this term. It was excellent to see so many pupils pick up awards and certificates in the celebratory end-of-term College Awards assemblies and we will be expanding this even further to be bigger and better at the end of this term. Importantly, since January, teachers have given-out seven times more credits than debits! We are currently undertaking lots of pupil-voice to see how we can enhance and improve our rewards and incentive systems – your ideas are always welcome!

## **High Expectations for Behaviour**

Good behaviour is always the foundation for highly effective learning. At Nether Stowe, we expect the best from our students at all times and will not accept any disruption to the important business of learning. We recognise that 99% of students meet these expectations every day!

However, for those that don't, we have a clear warning and escalation system in place for pupils, enabling them to amend their behaviour and adopt a good attitude to learning. On the rare occasions that pupils make poor choices, we have clear systems in place to address this. Your support is vital to achieve the aims of the school.

It is also important to remind all parents of the Department for Education stipulation that we do not require parental permission to impose a detention and, whilst we always strive to provide advance notice, this is also not a requirement. Please continue to support us in our determination to drive up standards and make Nether Stowe a centre of excellence!

## **Progress and Curriculum**

You will have recently received your child's most recent progress report. As you will also be aware GCSEs have become more challenging and we want more pupils than ever before to progress through to A Levels and Sixth Form study with us. Academic and personal challenge is vitally important to the ethos and values of our school. The minimum expected grades we set are a reflection of the ambition we have for our students. The qualities of determination, resilience and hard work are the foundations of a growth mind-set and success. We encourage you to continue to support your child in seeing achievement as a journey not just a destination!

## **Independent Learning and Homework.**

Effective independent learning at home is a really important aspect of good progress. We have high expectations as a school and homework should be set regularly: please liaise with the relevant teacher and head of department if you feel this is not the case. However, I also want you to be aware that we will be carrying out a great deal of work later this year to revolutionise the way we use homework and improve the impact it has on our pupils' progress – watch this space, and our twitter feed, for further details.

## Parental Communication

Effective communication is essential for the success of all of our students and we are proud of being an open and inclusive community. However, as I am sure you will appreciate, schools are busy places and it is not always possible to return an email or phone-call immediately, or on the same day.

Please be aware that, in line with our published protocol, we aim to reply to any non-emergency phone message or email within 24 (working) hours and provide a fuller response within 3 days, if further investigation or review is required. As always, in the case of an emergency, please contact reception.

## Twitter

There is so much going on at Nether Stowe that the traditional newsletter is no longer able to keep up! Please subscribe to our twitter feed, which is also available on the home-page of the website, to stay up-to-date with all of the exciting events in school and beyond.

## Autism Resource

Following substantial discussion and evaluation, the Autism Resource will be leaving Nether Stowe from Sept 2019. We always aim to implement the best possible provision for all of our pupils, and you will hopefully be aware of the development plans we have in place. However, as we further expand and attract far greater numbers in to Year 7 and the Sixth Form, we have identified that the space currently set aside to house the Autism Resource will be required to facilitate curriculum growth.

Although there is some time to go, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for all of the excellent work of the team and wish them the very best for the future.

## Parental Forum

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the last parental forum. The details and information from the meeting are available on the website. A date for the diary: the next forum will be taking place on **Thursday 28th March** and will start at **5:30p.m in the Little Theatre**.

Yours sincerely,



Mr G Langston-Jones  
Headteacher

Email: [office@netherstowe.com](mailto:office@netherstowe.com) Website: [www.netherstowe.com](http://www.netherstowe.com) Twitter: @netherstowe

