

30<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

There are a number of exciting things I wanted to let you know about that have been happening at Serlby Park Secondary Phase over the last few months.

Firstly, Y11 results for all pupils nationally have been published on the Performance Tables website. We were already very proud of our students and staff before this information was published but we have even more reason to celebrate now. Serlby Park is ranked third across all Bassetlaw schools, fourth when compared to Doncaster schools and twelfth in Nottinghamshire schools. This shows that students at Serlby Park have made good progress from when they joined us in Year 7 compared to the progress of other students nationally. Our progress results are the best Serlby Park has ever had and they are set to go up even more when final data is published in January. It just goes to show that all the hard work from students and staff paid off and the continued support from parents really does make a difference to our young people's achievements – thank you!

Also, as you know, attendance has been a real focus for us over the last 12 months. We have been having a number of rewards and students have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate being in school regularly. These rewards are continuing this term and throughout the year. In addition to celebrating with students, we would like to thank parents for their support in ensuring students are attending. As a thank you, we will be holding an additional draw for students who have 100% attendance in December, the prize will be a Christmas hamper full of tasty Christmas goodies for the whole family to share.

We are looking at how we can improve our communication with parents and are introducing a new system called School Comms. In order to be able to make this communication as effective as possible, we will be asking for email addresses. This will enable us to send your child's reports electronically and communicate with you much more easily for example when rewards are achieved. There is also an App that we would encourage you to download on your phones. I will send further details of this over the next few weeks.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind you to visit our website. We use the website to celebrate the successes of our students and to share the amazing things that are happening in school. I do hope you can visit it regularly as we keep it updated frequently.

Finally, I would like to let you know of some of the fund raising that has been taking place. On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April Serlby Park Academy hosted a Coffee and Cake morning to raise money for Cancer Research. Family and friends were invited and the fundraising event was an ideal opportunity for staff and parents to meet. Parents were greeted and served by Year 7 and 8 pupils. In total we raised £100.

Also, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September Serlby Park Academy hosted a Macmillan Coffee morning. The morning was amazing with support from parents/carers, staff and students who 'baked it or faked it', those who manned stalls and controlled the queue and those who came along to the event to support this fantastic cause - you

were all fantastic! The student council served parents/carers tea and cake and we had some lovely feedback from the parents/carers who attended. In total we raised £350. The fundraising didn't stop there. On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October Serlby Park Academy held a Halloween non uniform day to support "Head Start for Babies" and "Young Minds". In total we raised £273.86p for these charities.

And there is more. On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November Serlby Park Academy once again supported Children in Need. It was a fantastic day with students and staff dressing up for the occasion. In total we raised £409.60p. We also raised money through the Poppy appeal –the boxes are sealed and sent off so it takes some time to find out how much was raised.

As part of our on-going fundraising for good causes at the Academy, Year 7 and 8 will be hosting a Christmas Fayre on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. With the proceeds of the Fayre, your child will be helping to buy food for the homeless by donating to Bassetlaw Food Bank. On 19<sup>th</sup> December some of our student council representatives have been chosen to go along to Worksop Distribution Centre and find out for themselves where their donations have gone, and why and how the charity works.

What a fantastic start to the year! We are very proud of our young people and our staff and we thank you for your continued support.

If you have any suggestions to help improve the experiences and opportunities for our young people, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Your faithfully

Mrs R Thompson  
Principal