

Weekly Bulletin – 21st January 2019



Dear Parent and Student,

We held the bulletin until today so that we could share the outcome of the amazing 'First Give' Awards' Ceremony which took place this morning. I have shared with you previously what our **Year 8** students have been involved in over a period of time and today I had the privilege of being one of the judges at this truly impressive event.

I was joined on the judging panel by Lynette Richardson-Small from 'Elevate Slough' and three of our Year 11 students – Tyler Lee, Head Boy, Harman Ghataoura, Deputy Head Girl and Rohail Abdul, Deputy Head Boy. Unfortunately our local councillor, Cllr Pavitar Mann, was unavailable at the last minute, but we appreciate her willingness to support us on this occasion and look forward to welcoming Cllr Mann on another occasion.

The judging criteria were vigorous and it was a very hard decision. We had to consider the quality of presentation and the extent of impact with regards to social action. At stake was £1,000 to be donated/won for the charity being supported by each group each Tutor Group made an impassioned pitch for the money talking so authentically about what they and their peers had done to raise awareness of the issues and raise funds for the charitable organisation they were supporting. The excellent causes being supported were:

- Crohn's and Colitis UK 8RCH
- Slough Homeless Our concern 8BMT
- Sport in Mind 8MMC & VDA
- Thames Hospice 8CHO
- Home Start 8JBS
- Turning Point 8CCE

The winner was 'Turning Point' but all teams and charities were triumphant in this excellent project and hard fought final. Slough 'Turning Point' provides a wide range of health and well-being services to enable people to overcome significant barriers which adversely affect their ability to thrive. Local people with drug and alcohol issues, mental health concerns or disabilities are all assisted via this organisation/agency and therefore our young people shared a determination to improve the lives of others in their very local community. This is the focus of 'First Give'. The goal of this organisation is to enable a generation of young people to give their time and talent to improving their community. Sophie Standing, our 'First Give' project co-ordinator, inspired our students to excel as did Mr Hanson and all the Year 8 Form Tutors. I was a very proud Headteacher. We have very talented and gifted young men and women in our school and Year 8 showed that this applies to all, as does the ability to 'be the very best that you can be'. Our Beechwood values and our 'Be Beechwood' were seen to be so alive and relevant in this Year 8 initiative. Next, our **Year 7 students** are embarking on the project, so we look forward to sharing with you their achievements and success over this term.

With regards to achievement and success, today we also held the hustings for our 'Slough Youth Parliament' nominees. Our nominees this year are:

Fifi El Sayad	Yr 12 V1KDE	Emaan Fatimah	Yr 7 JFR
Maria Gaafar	Yr 12 MMW	Ghulam Mustafa	Yr 8 JBS
Bilal Hussain	Yr 12 V1 IAL		

The voting takes place on Thursday, 24th January 2019 and all students are invited to cast their vote. Slough Youth Parliament was established to ensure that young people in Slough are able to influence and be involved in decision making in the town. It is made up of 11 to 19 year olds from across Slough and the representatives engage with

BE RESPECTFUL
BE RESPECTED
BE ADMIRED
BE CONNECTED
BE THE CHEERY FACE OF WELCOME
BE THE FRIEND YOU
CAN DEPEND ON
BE DYNAMIC
BE INSPIRED
BE EXCITED
BE ADMIRED
BE THE PERSON YOU
ASPIRE TO BE
BE AN ACADEMIC
SUCCESS STORY
BE A HERO
BE A LEADER
BE A WINNER
BE A DREAMER
BE A CREDIT TO THE SCHOOL
BE THE ONE WHO'S EXCEPTIONAL
BE DEMANDING
BE COURAGEOUS
BE THE IDEA
THAT'S CONTAGIOUS
BE YOURSELF
BE SET FREE

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

other local youth parliamentarians from across the country to have a national as well as local voice. A great initiative to be involved in. We really want our young people to engage with their local and national communities to have a voice and plan for their futures.

With regards to planning for the future, a reminder that on **Tuesday, 22nd January 2019** we hold our **'Sixth Form Information Evening'**. This is an opportunity for Year 11 students to explore what their options are post GCSE. We look forward to welcoming students and their parents at 5.30pm.

Other key dates for your diaries prior to half term are:

Monday 28 th January 2019	The Parent Partnership workshop on promoting good mental health and knowing where to go for support when there exists challenge and difficulty.
Thursday, 7 th February, 2019	The Maths Challenge Event and the results of the Youth Parliament Election
Wednesday 13 th February 2019	The Sixth Formers' Social Evening
Thursday, 14 th February 2019	The Year 10 Subject Reporting Evening

We break for half-term at the end of the day on Friday 15th February and return on Monday 25th February 2019

I hope these reminders of key forthcoming dates is useful.

Very best wishes for a great week ahead.



Kathleen M Higgins
Executive Headteacher

Word of the Week

harbinger (noun)

har-bin-jer

Definition:

- a person who goes ahead and makes known the approach of another.
- anything that foreshadows a future event; omen; sign

Usage:

- The dark grey clouds were a harbinger of the approaching storm.
- The fainting episode, a potential harbinger of heart trouble, is definitely something you should get looked into.

Synonyms	
forerunner	messenger
sign	signal



ARE YOU WORD SAVVY?

Etymology
From the Germanic, *herbergere*, meaning shelter

Root of the Week

DEFINITION 1: The arrangement of people or things according to a particular sequence or pattern.

EXAMPLE: "The names are listed in alphabetical **order** on the class register."

DEFINITION 2: An authoritative command or instruction.

Example: "When the General gave an **order** everyone was quick to obey."



MATHS: To put numbers into ascending or descending value.

Example: To find the median average first put the numbers in **order**.

RELIGION: A society of monks or nuns living together and devoting themselves to their religion.

Example: "The Franciscans are a Christian religious **order** founded in the early 13th century by St. Francis of Assisi."