



Headteacher Update – December

Welcome to the Headteacher's update for December.

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of the Autumn term for 2017/18. It only seems like yesterday that I was writing to you to welcome everyone back following the summer break and to share the new expectations and aspirations that we have for every pupil at Coombeshead Academy. As we now prepare for the Christmas festivities, I would like to personally thank parents, the families within our community and the external agencies that we work with for your incredible support of everything we are trying to do to ensure the finest education for all pupils in our care.

This past half term, we have really focused on the value of community, which has been illustrated wonderfully by the incredible amount of community and outreach work that our pupils and staff have been involved in, and I will be talking to pupils about this during our Christmas assembly on Friday 15th December. Just this last fortnight we have raised a significant amount of money for worthy causes. The Christmas Fayre on Friday 8th December raised nearly £1000 for local charities, some of our sixth form leaders continue to raise money for children who will be in respite and hospice care over Christmas in order to buy them some gifts that they can open on Christmas day. Miss Hardingham took a group of pupils to local care homes to deliver mince pies to share our Christmas wishes with members of our community. These are just a few examples of the outstanding work and commitment that pupils are involved in at the school to ensure they are making a positive contribution to the community both in and out of school.

Making a positive contribution to our school community is something we talk to all pupils about on a regular basis. I always enjoy keeping up to date with many of the significant events that take place and am always proud, as Headteacher, to witness some of the outstanding talent that we have at the school. Just recently we have had the pleasure of watching this year's pantomime by the sixth form performing artists showcasing "Robin Hood," over two nights, our theatre in education group of Year 10's have toured primary schools in the local area performing "Mr Scrooge," to an exceptionally high standard. Our annual Christmas concert showcased some of the immense musical talent we have both as individuals and groups. Our tenors team continue to prepare hard for the event next year and no amount of snow was going to stop them. Our sporting success also continues across many fronts, not least the under 16 girls football team reaching the last 16 in the country. These are incredible achievements and I thank all for their support, not least the parents and families of the children involved and I look forward to sharing many more successes in the newly launched newsletter that will begin in January 2018.

These are but a flavour of the additional opportunities that pupils have available to them at the school and I am heartened by the increasing number who commit to the various activities on offer that provide them with an opportunity to excel in something that can ultimately be a lifelong passion, hobby or vocation in the future.

At this stage I would like to wish everyone involved with the Coombeshead community a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year and I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and back in school on Tuesday 2nd January.

Yours sincerely,

ANDREW HULBERT
Headteacher

