

Colton Hills Community School

Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.

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Dear Parent

I end the spring term feeling immensely proud to be the Headteacher of Colton Hills. I am truly thankful that we have such a dedicated and caring staff body, who are extremely giving of their time. I have also been impressed by the resilience and determination of our students throughout this period.

There have been many challenges but the excellence that we have at Colton Hills continues to shine through.

January began with our remote learning – a special thank you to parents for your tremendous support throughout this time. We had engagement figures range from 85-90% of students accessing online study throughout the first eight weeks, which has really smoothed their return to face to face teaching. Our attendance rate is currently 93% which is well above the national average of around 89%. We are most grateful to parents for working with us on getting students back to school.

Our testing programme has been extremely positive with close to 90% of students undertaking the lateral flow test in school. The testing has really helped to limit the disruption to lessons and has provided an added layer of reassurance to staff and students. Over 2,500 tests were undertaken in school and now we ask for your continued support in ensuring students continue to test at home.

We have other fantastic achievement to celebrate this term. Our Year 13 students achieved astonishing results in their January Business Studies examinations, with 86% achieving either a Distinction or Merit. Many of our Year 13 students are also celebrating offers from their chosen university, and over 81% of our students will go onto university or higher level apprenticeships.

Eight of our Year 12 students have made successful applications to the Aspiring Professionals programme led by the Social Mobility Foundation. This prestigious programme aims to provide young people with real insight into top professions and provide them with the skills needed to achieve their aspirations. Students will have access to training and their own personal professional mentor for the next seven years. Congratulations to Simran Randhawa, Sanjana Kalsi, Lisadeep Chumber, Manreet Bajwa, Cameron Sandhu, Jasveen Kaur, Damanpreet Singh and Gurleen Kaur – we look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Last week there was a flurry of excitement in school, as 275 'Golden Tickets' have been issued to pupils who have achieved 50+ achievement points, had 2 or less lates and have over 96% attendance as part of our rewards. Well done to all who achieved this standard in excellence.

Much of my work this term has been focused on building relationships and it has been a pleasure getting to know staff, students, parents and colleagues from across Wolverhampton. You will have read that the school on a 'journey to World Class'.

I am also in the process of detailing this journey in our 3 Year Development Plan which I shall share in more detail in the summer term. In three years' time, the school will celebrate it's 50th Anniversary and as a school we are really interested in hearing from past students or teacher who would be willing to share their stories, photographs and experiences at Colton Hills and beyond. If you have a story to share please contact isherlock@coltonhills.co.uk or complete this form.

Last week students brought home additional Lateral Flow testing kits – please encourage your child to complete this test each Sunday and Wednesday throughout the Easter break and report the results to the **government here**, and the **school here**.

Finally, Colton Hills will be going cashless after Easter, and therefore we require all parent/carers to activate their Parent Pay account by as soon as possible. You should already have had the activation information and if you have not activated your account we will be in touch.

Have a wonderful Easter!

