

SEDGEHILL

weekly

29 SEPTEMBER 2017

MESSAGE FROM MS CASSIDY

Last week, I told you about the Sedgehill 7, our new Teaching and Learning policy. As I said then, excellent teaching and learning is at the heart of any successful school, but it is not enough by itself. In particular, for any such policy to be effective, it needs to be supported by a disruption-free learning environment.

Our philosophy is that all students are entitled to a disruption free classroom. We have set our students strict, but clear and fair expectations on how they should behave in the classroom and reward and recognise those who meet those expectations. Students are now given an achievement point for each lesson in which they meet expectations and you will receive postcards at home when your child has performed particularly well. Each Friday afternoon, I tannoy round the whole school the names of those students who have had the best week, with 100% attendance, 100% punctuality and the most achievement points. And at the end of half term, we will hold a reward assembly to acknowledge those who have had a particularly successful half term.

For those who do not perform according to expectations, then there will be similarly clear consequences. They are given two clear warnings and then sent out of the lesson to work elsewhere. This is supported by our wider disruption free policy, including a ban of using mobile phones on site.

Disruption-free learning will allow us to provide the creative curriculum and range of extra-curricular activities that is planned. It is an essential part of our students becoming the best versions of themselves.

UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

We are aware that the university application process can be very time-consuming and very confusing, so would like to offer parents of Year 13 students the opportunity to come and find out more about how you can support him/her with the university application process. As such, we are having a UCAS information evening for parents of Year 13 students on **Tuesday 3 October from 5.00-6.00pm.**

For further information, please email Alex Mees, the school's UCAS Coordinator, on amees@sedgehillschool.co.uk.

VOCALIZE AUDITIONS

Vocalize - our award winning school choir - are holding auditions for new members next Thursday.

Students from all years are welcome, so any students who think they have what it takes should come to the music department after school on Thursday.

PERFECT STUDENTS

Perfect Student is presented to the student from each year group who has, in that week:

- 100% attendance;
- 100% punctuality;
- gained the most achievement points.

The following students have been presented with the award this week:

Year 7 **Leila Sesay**

Year 8 **Maggie Gregory**

Year 9 **Gizem Ibryam**

Year 10 **Tyrese Sutton**

Year 11 **Ceylan Ankach**

Sixth form **James Conroy / Gabriel Melo / Lewis Thomas**

Well done to all of the above students.

PREFECT TRAINING DAY



Beverley Ngala (Year 11) writes:

On Saturday, prefects attended a prefect training day. Firstly, we all sat in a circle and got to know each other more personally. It was really interesting learning things about other prefects. Secondly, we had a listening activity: the task was to talk about the most significant event that impacted our lives. So we paired ourselves up in twos, sat back to back from each other and talked for five minutes each. Next we had a pupil scenario activity: scenarios were displayed on the whiteboard and we had to decide whether it was a problem to pass on to a member of staff or something we can handle on our own. We were also taught what we can do to help and what we shouldn't do.

Later, we went around in small groups to answer questions such as 'How can we be role models?', 'What can we do to assist teachers?', and 'What can we do to mark our achievements as Year 11?'. Then, we finalised some of our ideas by categorizing them into key events and core events. We also made a calendar to show key dates and volunteered for teams like the Display Team, Prom Committee and School Shop.



MISST TRIP

Last week, four students from Sedgehill - Lauren Dempsey, Alice Graham, Conal Sparrow and Joseph Thomas - were chosen to attend a strings workshop with the multi-award winning violinist Nicola Benedetti through MiSST (Music in Secondary Schools Trust).



Conal Sparrow (Year 9) had this to say about the workshop:

The workshop was a fabulous opportunity for me to improve my musical skills. Not only was I able to practise my violin-playing but I was given the chance to play with Nicola Benedetti and ask her questions, such as 'Why did you choose a musical career?' and 'Who was your inspiration?' I really enjoyed the experience and would take any chance to do it again.

OPEN EVENING

On Monday we had our annual Open Evening for primary parents considering Sedgehill as a secondary school. It was a really lovely evening and we had very positive feedback.

Thank you to staff for all the effort they put into activities and thank you to the many students who gave up their evening to support.

On Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd October we have our Open Mornings between 9am and 10.30am. If you know any parents of year 5 or 6 parents, please encourage them to come and have a look.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 3 October Introduction to university admissions evening, 5pm

Monday 23 - Friday 27 October Half term