



SMITHILLS SCHOOL

SUCCESS FOR ALL

C. Dewse: Headteacher
BA (Hons), PGCE, National SENCO Award, NPQH

P. Pavey: Deputy Headteacher
BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, FCCT

J. Gunn: Deputy Headteacher
BSC (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Smithills Dean Road, Bolton, BL1 6JS 01204 842382 office@smithillsschool.net smithillsschool.net

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of this half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements and progress of our pupils. It has been a productive and successful period, and I am proud to share some of the highlights with you.

Year 11 Achievements

Our Year 11 pupils have excelled this term. They have embodied our school values of excellence, independence, and community throughout their Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs). Their commitment, revision efforts, and outstanding behaviour have been a credit to them, and to us all. It is wonderful to see such dedication, and they should be incredibly proud of their hard work.

Continued Progress Across Year Groups

Across all year groups, pupils are showing resilience and dedication to their studies. This is evident in the in the number of value points they have earned so far this academic year – over 121,000! Hard work is its own reward, and I encourage all pupils to continue their efforts as they strive towards their goals. Many pupils have also enjoyed the rewards available through our rewards shop, as well as rewards for good attendance. Some are even saving their value points for something bigger at the end of the year. For those children who have consistently demonstrated our values, reward trips are also on the horizon.

Extra-curricular Successes

Beyond the classroom, our pupils have been actively engaged in a variety of extra-curricular activities this term. From theatre trips and the Year 9 Arts Project to French and Spanish cooking classes, and exciting sports and dance events, there has been something for everyone. Year 9 pupils have also participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme. In addition, several university trips have provided our pupils with invaluable experiences and a glimpse into life beyond school.

A new School Management Information System (MIS)

Thank you to everyone who shared feedback at the Headteacher drop-in sessions and through our parent survey. Your insights are invaluable, and we are excited to act on them. One common request was for improved communication and easier access to key information. In response to this, we are delighted to announce that we are transitioning to Arbor as our new School Management Information System (MIS), which will replace Class Charts.

Arbor comes with a host of powerful features, one of the most exciting being the ability to share key information quickly and easily with you. To ensure you do not miss any crucial information, please ensure



that we have your current email address on file, as this will be our primary method of communication moving forward.

After the half-term break, we will also be launching the Arbor Parent App. This app will provide you with easy access to all your child's information in one place. Stay tuned for further details!

Staying Informed

For more details on what your child is studying, our school policies, homework expectations, and much more, please refer to the Smithills Family Handbook available on our website. It contains all the essential information you need to know about life at Smithills. If you have any questions or wish to share your feedback, I encourage you to use the 'Tell Us' icon on our website, attend our next Headteacher Coffee Morning on Thursday, 27th March at 9.30 am, or contact us by phone. We aim to respond to all enquiries within 48 working hours.

Finally, I would like to wish all our families a wonderful and restful half term. Thank you once again for your continued support of our school community.

Events for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 17 th February – 21 st February	Half Term
Tuesday 25 th February	Year 7 STEM event
Thursday 27 th February	Year 9 Gateways with Manchester University
Monday 3rd March – 7th March	Years 7 – 10 Cumulative Assessment Week
Wednesday 12 th March	Year 8 Gateways with Manchester University
Thursday 13 th March	Year 9 Options' Evening 4.30pm – 6pm (face to face)
Thursday 20 th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening 4pm – 6.30pm (online)
Wednesday 19 th March – Friday 21 st March	Year 10 Geography GCSE Fieldwork (1 day per group)
Thursday 27th March	Headteacher's Coffee Morning – 9.30am. Please email Miss Shaw if you would like to attend: c.shaw@smithillsschool.net
Monday 31 st March	Possible Eid al Fitr
Wednesday 2 nd April	Y8 Of Mice and Men Octagon theatre trip
Thursday 3 rd April	Year 10 Parents' Evening (online)
Friday 4 th April	School closes for Easter 3:15pm

Regards



C. Dewse
Headteacher