

17 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Dates for your diary**

Y9 Options Evening – Wednesday 8 March 4pm – 7pm

Strike Day – Wednesday 1 March, Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March

### **Strike Days – Wednesday 1 March, Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March**

You should have received the letter from our CEO, Tom Quinn sent earlier this week regarding the proposed strike days. It is our intention to partially open the school to Years 7 and 11 on these days. All other years – Years 8, 9 and 10 should remain at home and access online learning via Microsoft Teams.

Should there be any further changes, we will update parents as soon as possible.

### **Enterprise Days – Mon 13 & Tues 14 February**

Earlier this week Year 9 students have taken part in The National Careers Challenge. This year the challenge was set by NatWest and involved students developing a brand new product, a product that is going to be 'the next big thing'.

In their teams they had to develop and design a new product, create marketing materials for that product and then pitch their idea to the judges. The students performed excellently throughout the 2 days and so many of the business ideas that came about were incredible - we definitely have some future entrepreneurs amongst us!

We now have two teams going to the national finals at the ICC in Birmingham in July where they will be competing against hundreds of other schools from all over the country.

Special congratulations go to the following; Winning Team 1 - Abdullah Z, Levi C, George M and Aidan T. Winning Team 2 - Emre A , Aaris Z , Oska P, Grace S and Phoebe A

Further mention to Alfie H for presenting a full pitch on his own , Callum B and Namu A for standing up to explain an idea in front of their year group.

### **Music Share**

On Friday 17 February, a group of Birches Head Academy students in KS3 participated in a concert organised through MusicShare from Lichfield Cathedral School. This was a collaborative project involving 71 primary school students from 3 local schools. They performed a collection of different songs covering different topics such as growing up, history from the Stone and Iron Age, and even some music from other cultures as well as more traditional songs. The students performed brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for our school.

### **Afternoon Teas – Head of Year Celebrations**

Heads of Years celebrated with nominated students and each year team organised an afternoon tea experience.

Students from year 9 were nominated for 100% attendance and excellent behaviour. All students enjoyed a platter of sandwiches, tea and cakes.

Team year 8 had an amazing time at 'The Rabbit Hole Tea Room' celebrating the student's commitment to their learning by having 100% since September.

### **Ski Trip to Italy**

Ms Bunce, Head of PE is arranging a ski trip to Italy, taking place 14 – 20 January 2024. This opportunity is open to Years 8 – 10 and will cost £660 for full board, including ski hire, lift passes and tuition. If you are interested in this opportunity, a letter with all information can be requested from Main Reception.

### **Sport Fixtures**

A small group of students in Y7 took part in the Y7 Partnership Games event held at Fenton Manor. This event allowed students to experience new and exciting sports to try and hopefully inspire them to take the sport up in the future. The sports included; athletics and tennis. The students all did incredibly well and were really engaged when taking part. They really set a good example of what a Birches Head Academy student aspires to be.

Well done to the following students for demonstrating our value courage in the face of new experiences : Zavier, Rylee, Syzmon, Mason, Krystal, Bella, Gabriela, Bethany, Bailey, Brandon, Liam, Mya, Romeo and Dillion.

Please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format if you have any questions. You can contact the office by email on [info@bircheshead.org.uk](mailto:info@bircheshead.org.uk).

I hope you all have a relaxing half term.

Yours Sincerely



Ms K Dixon  
Principal