

# Headteacher's Corner

## High Grange

It has been a hugely successful penultimate week of term, with many highlights across the school. A particular strength this week has been the continued positive engagement around exams. Pupils and students have approached assessments with maturity and resilience, making excellent use of the regulation strategies explored during the exam drop-down sessions. It has been really encouraging to see young people recognising what supports them best and applying those strategies independently during what can naturally be a demanding time.

Another major highlight was this week's MasterChef competition, where we welcomed pupils from both Bladon House School and Holbrook School to compete alongside our pupils in producing a meal for judging. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to mix with peers from other schools, develop confidence, and showcase their practical skills under pressure. Dishes were judged by a professional chef, and the standard throughout was incredibly impressive. Events like this continue to highlight the importance of learning beyond the classroom and the value of shared experiences.

Our Post-16 students also benefitted from another excellent Supported Insights session this week, delivered in partnership with Rolls-Royce. Students spent the day completing mock interviews and workplace-based tasks, developing confidence, communication, and employability skills in preparation for future pathways. The feedback from those involved was extremely positive, and students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day.

One thing Gavin and I always pride ourselves on is remaining visible and actively involved throughout the school day. I am sure many of you will enjoy the photos below of my recent "makeover" courtesy of Lower Class 1. Unfortunately, I have since been informed that I will not be allowed back to style anybody else's hair in the future! Moments like these are such an important reminder of the joy, humour, and relationships that make our school community so special.

Looking ahead to next week, exams continue across the school. Please can I remind all parents and carers to check exam timetables carefully, and if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Next week, we will begin releasing information regarding next year's class groups. We usually share group information, including pupil names, directly with individual families to support transitions and preparation. If you would prefer for your child's name not to be shared in this way, please let me know before Monday.

