

Headteacher's Corner

High Grange

A huge welcome back to everyone for the start of a new academic year. It has been fantastic to have the school full of pupils and students again, and what a positive first week it has been!

Firstly, I want to recognise the incredible amount of work that took place over the summer. A huge thank you to our Admin Team, who continue to keep the school operational throughout the holidays, and to our Maintenance Team, who have worked tirelessly to make a number of improvements across the site. Internally, we have created a new Lower School staff room, additional classroom spaces and, excitingly, a new Drama studio and classroom. This forms part of our continued drive to develop our facilities and provide even more opportunities for pupils and students.

The biggest success, though, has been our young people. They have amazed us with how well they have returned to school. Our new pupils and students have settled incredibly well, while returning pupils have quickly re-established routines and relationships. We are also very grateful for the many positive messages we have received from parents and carers this week.

The pictures this week include a fantastic Middle School PE lesson and Year 10 pupils exploring anger and emotional regulation in PSHE. I have had the pleasure of visiting so many lessons already, ranging from Maths and Art to Design Technology and beyond. We are incredibly fortunate to have such high-quality teachers and support staff who make learning engaging, purposeful and accessible.

Our new staff have also settled brilliantly and are already becoming part of the High Grange community. Feedback from our ACE sessions has been particularly positive, with pupils engaging well in work around Adaptive Thinking, Communication and Emotional Wellbeing. Please continue using this ACE language at home too; having that shared approach between school and families can be incredibly powerful.

A brilliant first week and a fantastic foundation for the year ahead. Thank you to pupils, students, families and staff for making the start of the new academic year such a positive one.

