

## Bassingbourn Village College

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Though it has been a shorter week for our students, the College has been a buzz of activity today for our final staff training day of the academic year. Through the day we have been discussing the importance of setting the right culture as well as laying the foundations for us to become an exceptional College in the future. A particular focus has been for colleagues to share the work they have been doing in our curriculum to develop our 'thinking hard' priority - which is core for us to ensure our students are striving to reach their full potential. I thank you for your support in enabling these days to take place which I know can sometimes place additional strain with changes to schedules, but for us, they are vital in ensuring we are able to sustain a rapid pace of change and improvement.

Looking back over the week it has been another busy few days within the College. On Wednesday we were filming a school video which we look forward to sharing with you soon, and thank you to all the students that took part in this. In addition, we also had a number of Primary Schools taking part in a New Age Kurling competition and our Sports Leaders acted as exceptional ambassadors for the College. One of the members of staff who attended said: "It was a fantastic event and it wouldn't have been possible without our Sports Leaders, they were amazing and grew in confidence during the afternoon". It most certainly was a great demonstration of our College values in action.

On the 27th January the world came together as part of Holocaust Memorial Day. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Mrs Warwick has been leading assemblies all week to remember and discuss, and to ensure the next generation learn the lessons for humanity and never forget. Furthermore, this afternoon Mrs Halliday shared with staff the powerful work that Year 7 and 8 have been doing in their Drama lessons to engage with this subject. Engagement with difficult lessons from our past in such a respectful and inspiring way is what makes me proud to be leading this community.

We have two more weeks left of this half-term and much to achieve. I look forward to welcoming students back on Monday with the purpose to achieve their very best as we begin the start of February.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Regards,

Mr Stoneham Principal