



# Birchwood Community High School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this half term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the many successes we've enjoyed despite the usual post-Christmas lull. It has been a fantastic few weeks, and there's much to be proud of.

A particular highlight was our Information, Advice, and Guidance (IAG) evening for Years 7 and 8, which took place last night. We had nearly 90% attendance from parents and received overwhelmingly positive feedback in our survey. In fact, 98% of respondents said they would not change anything about the evening, with the vast majority rating it 5 out of 5 in all areas. The comments were particularly encouraging, with many describing the evening as highly informative and helpful. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend, and we look forward to continuing these valuable partnerships with you.

This week, our form groups have been focusing on their form icons – individuals carefully chosen to support our students in gaining both cultural capital and knowledge. This work is integral to fostering a rich and inclusive environment for all our students, helping them to expand their horizons.

I'd also like to commend our Year 11 students for completing their Language Speaking exams and Drama exam this week. Well done to all involved, and best of luck as they continue their preparations for their upcoming GCSEs.

In Year 9, we've been offering taster sessions ahead of the upcoming option choices. This is a great opportunity for students to explore different subjects and consider their next steps as they prepare for the future.

Finally, our last House Competition of the half term was a fantastic event – a lively and engaging bingo game that saw great participation from students. It was wonderful to see the positive atmosphere and excitement in the hall, demonstrating the strength of our House spirit.

As we head into the February half term, I would like to wish you all a restful break. We are looking forward to what the next half term will bring and can't wait to see what we can achieve together.

Thank you for your continued support. See you in the next half term!

Best wishes and take care,

Emma Mills