

# Gartree High School

Ridgeway, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5TQ



20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear parent/carer,

You may have heard Chris Evans on his radio show encouraging listeners to save small change in a jar. Saving, budgeting and money management is something that can be encouraged from a young age. Increasingly, young people are familiar with the notion of debt. Indeed, they need to accept debt as part of their life if they wish to study at university. An average university student can expect to accrue debt of between £40,000 to £50,000 over the duration of their course. Balancing this extent of debt with the idea of saving 50 pence or £1 coins can be difficult and I have seen university students so overwhelmed by this level of debt, that they do not manage money at all! A dangerous attitude to have over the long term.

Through our Global Citizenship programme, students are taught money management in a variety of practical ways. These include how we find value in society, good practice regarding budgeting and the impacts of debt. We will soon be hosting a theatrical performance by 'Zest' on the potential effects of poor money management, as well as exploring homelessness and other social issues.

Year 8s have an exciting opportunity to take part in an Entrepreneur's Masterclass next week. This is in conjunction with Young Enterprise and will form part of the school's run up to the UK Tenner competition. Watch this space!

This year our Innovation day, which takes place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, will focus on a research project which is being conducted by a range of universities, including Loughborough University and the University of Oxford. Our Innovation day will be in liaison with Loughborough University and is entitled 'Clever Day'. The project focusses on the impact mobile phones have on consumers and their attachment to them as well as an understanding of the environmental and societal impact mobile phones have on the world. The project also challenges the students' creative thinking and tests their design skills to create the phone of the future. It will be delivered by all teachers across the different subjects, to demonstrate the links between Design and Technology and the rest of the curriculum. The students will have the opportunity to feedback to Loughborough University staff as part of their research.

Finally, congratulations to the Year 6 basketball team who won the Oadby Primary Schools Year 5/6 Basketball Tournament this week. Gartree had their two teams in the play off for the first place trophy – well done.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S. Singleton'.

Sonia Singleton  
Headteacher

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