

# Gartree High School

Ridgeway, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5TQ



31<sup>st</sup> August 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to you all. We have had a wonderful start to the term (with the exception of some bus issues...). Our students have settled in to their school routine smoothly and are getting to know their new timetable and their new teachers. We put a huge emphasis on the student/teacher relationship at Gartree. This connection is the foundation for academic learning and positive social and emotional development. Making a positive contribution to our school atmosphere and learning environment is everyone's business! This term we welcome our new Year 7 students and some new teachers to our team. These are:

Jessica Ball – teacher of Art and Design Technology

Kelly Parker - Head of Key Stage 4 and teacher of Humanities

Abibat Tannock – teacher of modern foreign languages

Ed Wilson – Assistant Headteacher and teacher of History

We all approach the new academic year with different feelings. Both the teachers and students can feel excited and apprehensive. We know this is true for parents too. Some are sad that a new year is starting and their child is growing up too quickly. Others are relieved that the summer holidays are over. All parents will want their child to have a happy and successful year: to thrive, learn and develop. Your support is vital to your son or daughter's success and their feelings about school. In our whole school assembly, I spoke about self-motivation and having a 'fire in your belly'. Knowing where you are heading and having a clear purpose for your actions and efforts can be the driver for achievement in school and life in general. It can keep you going when things get tough. I have asked all of our students to think about this as they start the new year. What is the 'fire in their belly'? I ask them all to ensure that they are kind, are respectful, have ambition and have drive. I want to see them putting energy into everything they do. There are 190 days at school this academic year – let the magic begin!

For those students interested in representing the school in our football teams, the trials will take place next week:

Year 8 and Year 9 boys football trials after school on Tuesday 4th September. These will finish at approximately 4.30pm.

Year 7 boys football trials after school on Wednesday 5th September. These will finish at approximately 4.45pm.

Headteacher: Ms Sonia Singleton

Deputy Headteachers: Mr Paul Bannister, Mr Ben Rackley

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There is an evening event for parents of Key Stage 4 students next Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> September. This is a "Supporting Excellence" evening. There will be sections on: Key Stage 4 expectations; Independent learning advice; Year 10 work experience; Revision and exam practice; Post-16 transition. Presentations will be followed by an opportunity to discuss questions with the Head of Key Stage 4 and the Senior Team. Parents of Year 10 students are invited for a 6.00 pm start and parents of Year 11 students for a 7.00 pm start. Please join us to help you support your student.

And finally, congratulations to Year 10 students Priva, Yuvraaj and Munraaj on achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Singleton'.

Sonia Singleton  
Headteacher

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