

## Headteacher's Blog 20<sup>th</sup> December - What a Wonderful Term!

This week I have enjoyed wishing the students a very happy Christmas and congratulating them on all of their hard work this term. I met the staff this morning, who have been enjoying a treat each of the last 12 working days before Christmas. I thanked them for the amazing job they do, in all of their roles, to ensure that your children get the very best education and care we can provide.

As ever, the Autumn term has been an eventful one. As I look through our Twitter and/or Facebook pages it never ceases to amaze me the range of activities and events that go on; there is something every day to celebrate.

We have had some trips this term, a vital part of ensuring education goes beyond the classroom. Year 7 went on their residential to PGL and made memories that will last them a life time; I still remember my PGL trip in primary school and that scary walk in Wookey Hole! We have also had trips for Year 11 Geographers to Birmingham and Carding Mill, as well as a visit to MIRA Technology site for our budding engineers and Year 10 going to The University of Birmingham. There will be lots more opportunities for students to go on trips during the rest of the year with Poland, Paris and many more to come.

I have been particularly impressed with the range of charity events this term, superbly led and organised by our Sixth Form students. If you haven't already seen it have a look at our staff version of Mariah Carey's 'All I want for Christmas', I think this will give you a flavour of the Christmas SPIRIT that has been on show in recent weeks. We raised over £1200 for Children In Need, which was our main charity event this term. However, we also had a number of other events including a Christmas Fair and Christmas Jumper Day. The Sixth Form also raised money through the McMillan appeal and we sent a room full of food to Father Hudson's Homes. All of these events make me very proud of the compassion and generosity of the school community.

Our students continue to excel in so many ways. In STEM we have had 'The Big Idea' day, with a number of Year 8 students looking at solutions for the planet. The school production of 'Alice In Wonderland' was a stunning success last week (see my review in last week's blog). Our school teams are on top in many competitions across the region as we continue to lead the way in school games and we are proud of each and every student that gets involved in extra-curricular sport at whatever level; no matter the result. Our football academy in the Sixth Form is flourishing through the West Bromwich Albion Foundation and we were pleased to welcome two first team players from to talk to our football academy students.

This is my 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas at The Coleshill School. The first followed a November Ofsted monitoring inspection of the school, which was in Special Measures at the time. The 10<sup>th</sup> sees the school with record numbers, a growing Sixth Form and The Wilson Building nearing completion. I am very happy and proud to work for this school and local community, it is a truly inspirational place to be and the greatest privilege of my life to be leading your school.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and look forward to sharing more success with you in 2020, the 500<sup>th</sup> year of The Coleshill School.

Ian Smith-Childs

Headteacher



Year 7 PGL Trip



Year 11 Carding Mill Trip



MIRA Technology Trip



Building Site Trip



University of Birmingham Trip



Children in Need



Macmillan Coffee Morning



STEM Big Ideas Day



Alice in Wonderland School Production



West Bromwich Albion Players – Question and Answer Session



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year