

# Headteacher's Blog - 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## An inspirational start to 2020

A very happy New Year to you and your families, I hope you have enjoyed the festive break. I love the Christmas period, mostly for the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. It has been great to hear all the stories from students about what they have enjoyed during the holidays as I have chatted with them this week.

I have a very good feeling about 2020. As we know, it will be a momentous year for the school. This is the 500<sup>th</sup> year of The Coleshill School and it seems fitting that it will mark the next stage in its journey as 'The Wilson Block' nears completion. We will be celebrating the history of the school and the local community during 2020 and I will keep you updated on planned events. I have had several e-mails from past students of the school who want to come back and celebrate the 500 year anniversary with us and we very much look forward to welcoming them.

On Monday of this week all staff enjoyed an inspirational start to 2020, with our second bi-annual Conference at The National Motorcycle Museum. This was an opportunity for over 1000 staff from the 14 schools in the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership to come together and hear from a range of speakers. I am sure staff will agree with me that the day was very valuable and provided a real reminder of the important role that all who work in education play in supporting young people and how just one adult can change the life of a young person for the better.

One of these speakers was Musharraf, or Mushy as he prefers to be called. Some of you may have watched the TV series Educating Yorkshire, which first aired in 2014. Mushy was a student in Year 11 at the time of filming. He had a speech impediment that had prevented him from speaking from an early age. Doctors and other professionals had told his family he would never be able to speak fluently. This all changed when his English teacher, Mr Burton came up with an innovative way of curing his stammer. You can watch the clip from the programme here [Educating Yorkshire - Mushy Finds His Voice - Full Video HD - YouTube](#)

Now in his early twenties Mushy is a motivational speakers and presented to us for 45 minutes about how he has overcome his barriers and the impact that Mr Burton and his school had on him. I met him afterwards and talked to him about how inspirational he is and that I have used his clip when working with trainee teachers to get the message across about the magic of teaching. Mushy serves as a reminder that we, as educators, have one of the most rewarding jobs and that students must have belief that any barrier can be overcome with hard work and determination.

