



24 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the wonderful work that has been undertaken by our Student Leadership team in school so far this academic year. It is always fantastic to see students supporting each other and driving change within school both in the classroom and beyond and this year's team have made a brilliant start within their specific roles.

On Friday 17 November our Student Leadership team completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> training day of the academic year. The session was attended by all leaders in Year 9-13 and was led by our senior Student Leadership Team, consisting of students in Year 13. The session was split into two parts:

- 1- Leadership Theory- this involved a presentation from our two Senior Student Leaders (Shingai and Grace) on the qualities of an effective leader. This developed on work Senior Student Leaders have been completing with Mr Schofield as part of their Sixth Form enrichment programme and allowed younger leaders to have an initial insight into the different ways you can successfully lead a team. The first session was concluded with a self-reflection questionnaire to allow all students to begin to understand the type of leadership they demonstrate.



- 2- Planning for upcoming events- The second half of the session involved students splitting into their leadership teams to work on upcoming events for this half term and beyond. This was led by the senior student leaders and supported by leaders in younger year groups:

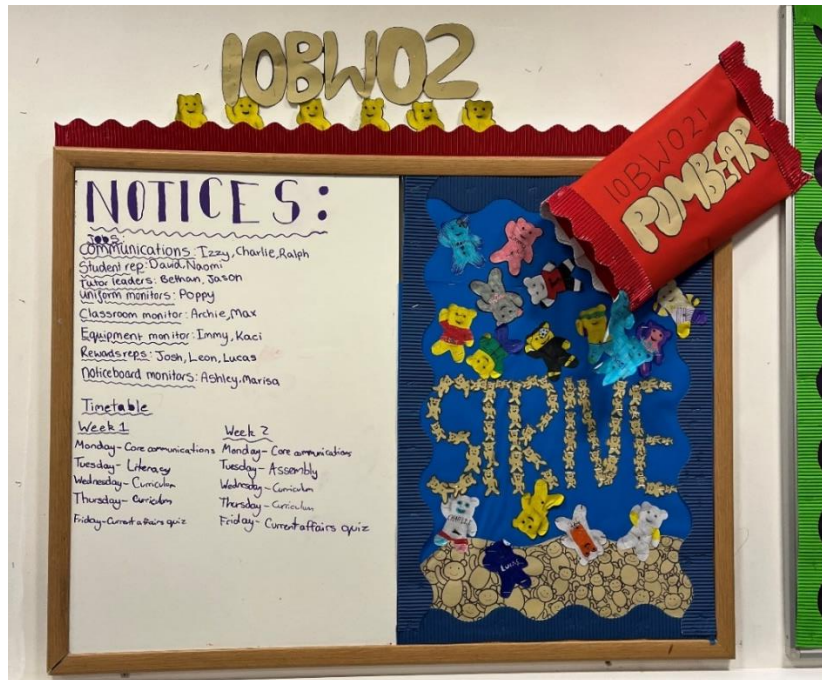
**Charity and Community Leaders-** worked with Mr Butler on the wide range of activities we run in school in the lead up to Christmas. It was great to hear the passion our students have to impact our wider community in a positive way.

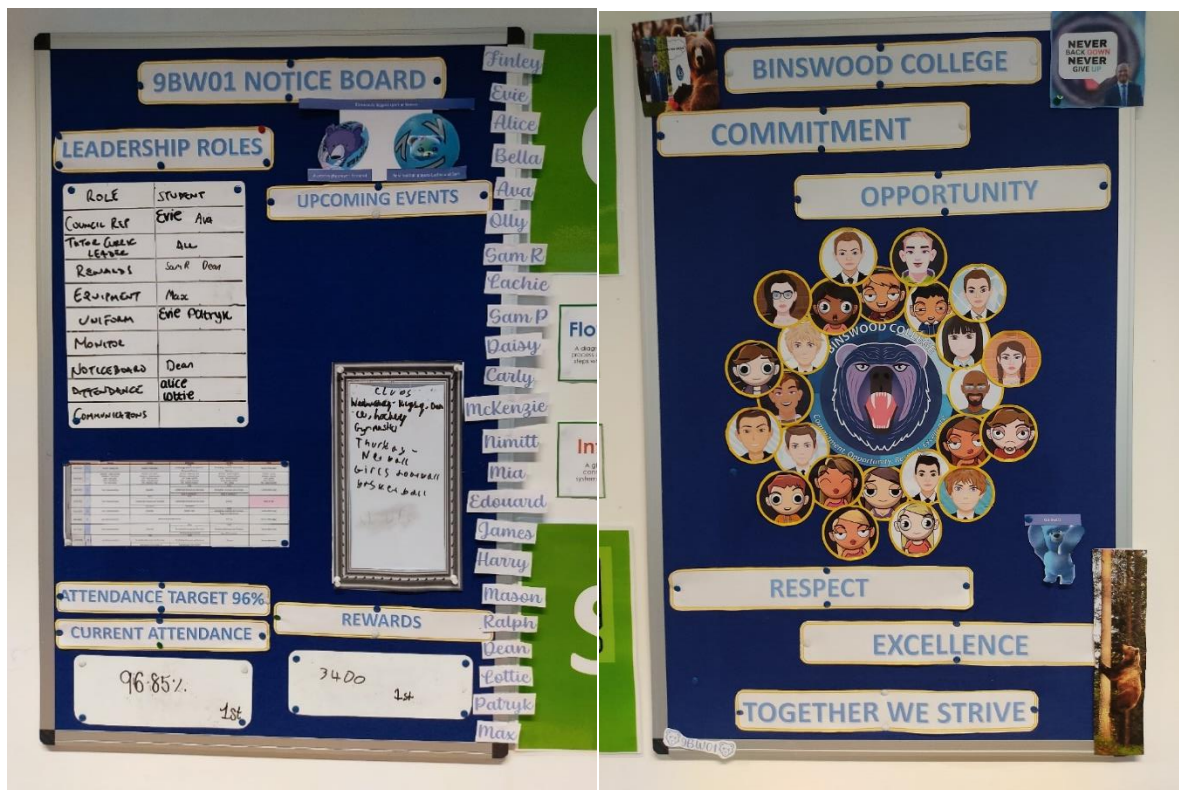
**Careers Leaders-** worked on a number of careers events, with the support of Ms Barley-Morey, that are due to take place throughout the rest of this year.

**Sports Leaders-** Put final plans into place for the upcoming, always keenly contested, College sports events due to run within College fortnight with opportunities for all students to represent their College in netball and football competitions.

**College Leaders-** Worked with Mrs Clarke to prepare for the upcoming College fortnight, tasks included developing display boards, preparing speeches for College assemblies and work on the year 7 College day taking place on Friday 24 November.

**Marketing Leaders-** Led an inter-college competition linked to tutor noticeboards, the winning tutor groups have been presented with a prize during this week's College assembly's (please see some examples below) Each noticeboard was judged around three key areas: college identity, creativity, and general aesthetic appeal.





In addition to these activities International Leaders in Year 8 have recently made a call to our partner school in India. They prepared questions about what life and school is like in Mumbai and really enjoyed the experience of finding out about a very different school environment. Rewards Leaders in Year 8 are also working towards supporting our celebration events at the end of term.

Now Year 7 students have settled into life at NLS there are some exciting leadership opportunities on the horizon. Mrs Harding is in the process of collating applications to become an Eco Leader and moving into next term the applications for, the always popular, Transition Leader roles will be open. More information linked to this will follow in the spring term

Student Mentoring has also begun this week with a number of our Sixth Form students working closely with some younger student during one tutor time a week. This programme is going to develop further with the addition of Year 11 mentors after the Christmas break. A number of Sixth Form students have also offered their services to support extra-curricular clubs we offer at school. As well as more specific academic support in a range of subject areas the War Hammer Club and Introduction to Psychology have proved particularly popular with students. More detail around what is on offer can be found via the school [website](#).

Finally we have just completed our first round of student voice for this academic year with a meeting between Mr Lowdell and our Senior Student Leaders Grace and Shingai. This process gives all students in school the opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas on how we can improve our school even further through first tutor, then year group and finally whole school representative meetings. Areas raised by the students this term have included:

- Offering a new cashless system for charity donations
- Enhancing facilities for students in school including access to new water fountains and enhancements to bike shed and toilet provision.

- Developing opportunities for students in Year 9 to access taster sessions pre option choices as well as improving career guidance linked to Sixth Form work experience

All students involved in leadership activities this year have acquitted themselves extremely well and they should be proud of their achievements to date. It is also great to see such a diverse representation of our student body in these roles and I look forward to all their further achievements over the remainder of the year and beyond.

Yours Sincerely

James Foxon

AHT