



23 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has certainly been an eventful couple of weeks but it has been a pleasure to see so many students settling in well. Thank you for your patience last week when we experienced a burst water main. Fortunately, due to the swift action of the site team the school was only closed for a day.

As well as seeing students return with such determination to work hard in lessons it is pleasing to be able to reintroduce more enrichment opportunities which enhance the experience of school for our young people.

This term we have already had a History event with the George Stephenson Heritage night, Year 10 performing artists have watched Blood Brothers and RE students visited Newcastle Cathedral to take part in the 'God and The Big Bang' debates and discussions. We also had a special treat for two students who have impressed with their work with the Newcastle United Foundation. They were nominated to present Nick Pope with Premier League 'Save of the Month' and meet several players. Well done Millie and Josh, I am sure they were honoured to receive the award from two great ambassadors for George Stephenson!



In my assemblies last week we talked about how proud we were of our students' achievements over the summer with outstanding A level and GCSE results, but also how we look to continue to improve as a school. I look forward to receiving the ideas and suggestions that they generate in tutorials this term as part of our vision work. I also look forward to welcoming our

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prospective new students and parents at our Year 6 open evening from 5pm-7pm next Thursday 29th September. Please tell any friends with children in Year 6 they are welcome to attend.

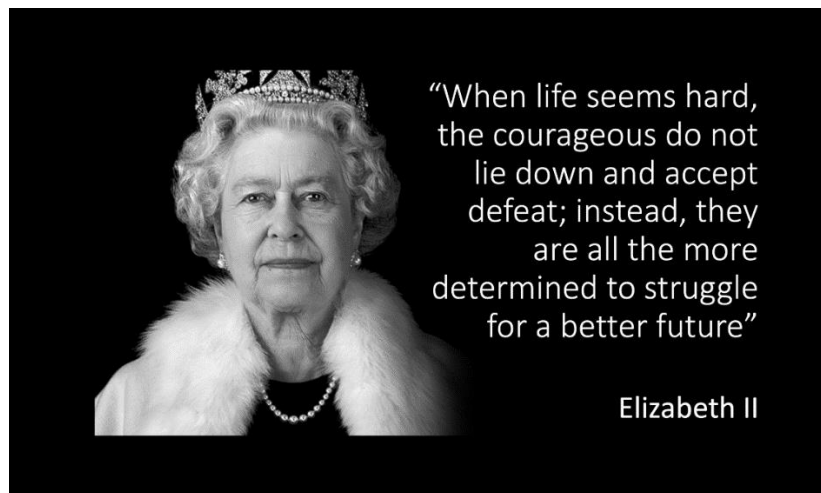
We are delighted with the standard of uniform this year and students look proud to be part of our school. Thank you for ensuring we keep up these standards. I would like to remind you that we do not allow piercings other than ear studs so your support in enforcing this is appreciated.

The success and achievements of our ex-students is something we take great pride in and during the summer we received a lovely video message for our staff from an ex-student who has just received a First-Class Honours degree from Cambridge. Part of her message sums up how at George Stephenson we work hard to develop our students personally as well as academically:

"My teachers at George Stephenson had such a big impact on me, not just academically but on my personal development and I am so grateful for this. You taught me to be resilient and have a high level of emotional intelligence which I didn't fully appreciate until I did a bit of growing up!"

Thank you to the many parents I have seen who have wished me well in Headship. Your support is warmly received and makes my job and that of colleagues so much easier. If you would like to take a more active role in supporting the school and its development, we have two positions available for Parent Governors. It is a very rewarding job so please email enquiries@gshs.org.uk for more information if this is something that interests you.

In what has been a week for reflection I will leave you with a final thought for the week.



Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Douthwaite".

Mr P. Douthwaite
Headteacher