Dear All

When I talk about the achievements of so many of our students I often make reference to them 'letting their light shine'. It is a quote from a poem read by Nelson Mandela at his inauguration as South African president. The poem reads:

"We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you NOT to be?
You are a child of the world
Your playing small does not serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you.
We were born to make manifest the qualities that are within us.
It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone.
As we let our own Light shine, we unconsciously Give others permission to do the same."

The message is clear, when people achieve and do so publicly they feel good about themselves and encourage others to achieve. This is why celebrating and recognising achievements is a central part of our ethos at Polesworth. Already this term the following students have been referred to me for doing something exceptional and if I haven’t already met with them I will be doing so over the coming weeks. They have genuinely let their lights shine and I am extremely proud of them.

Cameron Smith  
Tom Brott  
Zak Summerill  
Emma Smith  
Rosie Bant  
Kelly Price  
Mia Roche  
Beth Miller  
Olivia Gilbert  
Amelia Albrighton  
Lexie Jenkins  
Erin Hope Coney  
Katy Raworth  
Kiara Shafiq  
Chloe Hopkin  
Erin Hackett  
Neave Albrighton  
Nicole Fitzgibbon  
Grace Amos  
Tegan Borders

Rubi-Rae Green  
Inari Cattell  
Violet Ellwood  
Heather Mortimer  
Ruby Spencer  
Abigail Cotter  
Isabelle Pickett  
Isabella Marshall  
Georgia Calcott  
Kirsten Village  
Maddison Tivey  
Lucy Bratt  
Rebecca Hewitt  
Emily Cole  
Georgia Brandrick  
Jess Sadler  
Sophie Marshall  
Jess Brown  
Andrea Frarey  
Jemma Guild  
Mia Scutt  
Caitlin Riley  
Sophie Harris  
Poppy Albrighton  
Beth Sadler  
Ciara Adams  
Ellie Biggs  
Ammie Raworth  
Angel Nield  
Megan Smith  
Milly Rotton

Headteacher
The Internet is a wonderful and diverse place, filled with incredible information resources. Yet for many parents and carers, who often have less knowledge and experience of the Internet, it can be a place of concern. We worry about what or whom our children may encounter online, and how we can protect them with our own limited knowledge.

While we use it for booking holidays and answering emails, your children are setting up social networking pages, instant messaging with webcams, blogging, researching school projects, listening to music, playing online games and emailing friends.

Most children use the internet safely and responsibly and we shouldn’t therefore lose sight of the positive aspects. As parents, we need to balance our concerns about their safety online with empowering them to explore and make the most of this wonderfully rich resource, safe in the knowledge that they can talk to us about anything they may run into.

**TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS**

1. Set up an account for each user on your PC at home and only give yourself administrator access. This will allow you to keep control of the settings and the installation of software. Each user account can be password protected. You can do this in the ‘Control Panel’.

2. Add a screen saver protected by a password to your account so that if you leave the PC for 5 minutes you will have to enter your password. You can do this in the ‘Control Panel’.

3. Encourage your family to use technology in a public part of the house, and not in the bedroom, where it’s easier to monitor what your children are doing. This applies not just to PCs but also to laptops and games consoles.
If a predator sees a living room/kitchen in the background on the webcam rather than a child’s bedroom, they will be less likely to embark on attempting to groom your child.

4. Remember that many games consoles come with family settings. For example if you want to disable or limit ‘Xbox Live’ on the Xbox 360 you can do so by going to ‘Settings, Parental controls’. There is also the option to add a mask to voices so that a youngster’s voice sounds like that of an adult or even a robot. See the ‘Online Gaming and Games Consoles’ section for further information.

5. Encourage your child not to open emails from unfamiliar email addresses and to avoid opening suspicious attachments. As far as possible you should encourage your child to use the school’s email system and Learning Platform as this provides a safer environment.

6. Set your favourite search engine to do ‘safe searches’. This will make sure that a search returns content suitable for all ages. For example, to set Google to do safe searches click on search settings on the homepage and then ensure that moderate or strict filtering is enabled.

7. Tell children not to give out their personal details whilst online. If they want to subscribe to any online services or websites make up a family email address to receive the mail.

8. The internet is a great resource for homework, but remember to use more than one site in research to get broad, balanced information and always reference your research sources.

9. Involve your children in writing your own family code of ‘Acceptable Computer & Internet Use’. Remember that what’s acceptable for a teenager isn’t necessarily ok for a primary school-aged child, so get their input. See the ‘Activities for use at home’ section.

10. Surf together and engage in their world. Go online with your child and become part of their online life – add them as friend on a social networking site (once they’re old enough), text them and discover what their game consoles can do. Keep up...today’s technology is tomorrow’s antique!
Social Networking sites are among the fastest growing phenomena on the Internet. Among the most popular social networking sites are Facebook, Bebo, MySpace and Twitter. All of them provide brilliant ways to stay in touch with friends and share photographs, comments or even play online applications. If used carelessly, however, they can expose you and your children to identity theft and online predators.

Instant messaging (IM) is a technology which enables you to send and receive messages almost instantaneously across an Internet connection. IM is much faster than email and is rapidly replacing the telephone as the primary method of a quick or instant communication. Examples of IM are: MSN, Windows Live, Yahoo!, and even Facebook has its own IM service.

Simple Social Networking and Instant Messenger Rules that you might share with your child are:

✓ Pay attention to age restrictions – for example Facebook and Bebo are only for people aged 13 years and older.

✓ Social networking sites, such as Facebook and Bebo, have a range of privacy settings. These are often setup by default to ‘expose’ your details to anyone. When ‘open’ anyone could find you through a search of the networking site or even through a search engine, such as Google. So it is important to change your settings to ‘Friends only’ so that your details and profile content can only be seen by your invited and accepted friends and don’t forget to remove yourself from search engine results.

✓ Have a neutral picture of yourself as your profile image. Don’t post embarrassing material!

✓ You do not need to accept friendship requests. Reject or ignore unless you know the person or want to accept them. Be prepared that you may receive friendship requests or suggestions from people you do not know. It is not a competition to have as many friends as possible!
✓ You can delete unwanted ‘friends’ from you Social Networking sites and IM lists. On IM don’t forget to ‘Block’ them as well so they can’t request your friendship again.

✓ Exercise caution! For example in Facebook if you write on a friend’s wall all their friends can see your comment – even if they are not your friend.

✓ If you or a friend are ‘tagged’ in an online photo album the whole photo album may be visible to their friends, your friends and anyone else tagged in the same album.

✓ You do not have to be friends with someone to be tagged in their photo album. If you are tagged in a photo you can remove the tag, but not the photo.

✓ Your friends may take and post photos you are not happy about. You need to speak to them first, rather than contacting a web site. If you are over 18 the web site will only look into issues that contravene their terms and conditions.

**PRIVACY SETTINGS ON FACEBOOK**

Facebook Privacy information can be found here:


The safest way for your Facebook profile to be set-up is for it to be as private as possible i.e. only allowing your **Friends** to have access to your information and pictures. It is therefore advisable that you only have **REAL** friends as contacts on Facebook and other Social Networking sites.

To set up the ideal Facebook profile, follow these steps:

1) Click on **Account** in the top right hand corner of your Facebook page.

2) Choose the **Privacy Settings** option.

3) You will then see the page below and you can edit the settings to ensure that **Friends only** have access to your profile and its information.

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**Miss K Downing**  
**Assistant Headteacher**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Year 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Megan Chapman</td>
<td>Charlotte Brookes</td>
<td>Willow Wood</td>
<td>Sophie Silvester</td>
<td>Jessica Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenzie McWilliam</td>
<td>Liv Byrne</td>
<td>Grace Humphreys</td>
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GCSE DANCE SHOWCASE

Wednesday 28th March 2018

In the main hall
Refreshments available

Doors open at 6.30pm
Show starts at 7.00pm

Tickets available on ParentPay - Adults £2.50 - Students £1.50
LIVE LOUNGE
FRIDAY 27th APRIL 2018
MAIN HALL
7PM
Available on Parent Pay
£5.00/£3.00
If any pupils want to help with the clubs just turn up and help out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before School</td>
<td>Handball</td>
<td>Sport Hall</td>
<td>Lunchtime</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Sport Hall</td>
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<td>7.50 - 8.15</td>
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<td>1.15 - 1.50</td>
<td>GCSE theory support</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Netball (Yr 7-9)</td>
<td>Sport Hall</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Gym</td>
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<td>Dance club</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
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<td>Boys Badminton</td>
<td>Sport Hall</td>
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<td>Fitness</td>
<td>Gym</td>
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<td>After School</td>
<td>Boys Football Training</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>3.05 - 4.15</td>
<td>Boys Football Training</td>
<td>Gym</td>
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<td>Girls Indoor Football</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
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<td>Girls Indoor Football</td>
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<td>GCSE Netball</td>
<td>Courts</td>
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<td>Rugy - Boys and Girls</td>
<td>Field</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GCSE Badminton</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
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<td>GCSE Handball</td>
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<td>GCSE Dance – Yr. 11</td>
<td>Field</td>
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<td>GCSE Dance – Yr. 11</td>
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ALL Years Extracurricular clubs – Jan 2018 – New Year’s Resolution
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period 1&amp;2</th>
<th>Period 3&amp;4</th>
<th>Period 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 12 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday 13 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday 14 March</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Option D</strong></td>
<td><strong>Option E</strong></td>
<td><strong>Option C</strong></td>
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<td>Biology 2 hrs</td>
<td>Business Studies 2 hrs</td>
<td>Business Studies 2 hrs</td>
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<td>Economics 2 hrs</td>
<td>Chemistry 2 hrs</td>
<td>History 1 hr 30</td>
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<td>English 2 hrs 30</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>German 2hr 30</td>
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<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Home Economics 1hr 30</td>
<td>Textiles 2 hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>History 1 hr 30</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>IT 1 hr 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media 1 hr</td>
<td>Psychology 2 hrs</td>
<td>World Development 3 hrs</td>
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<td>PE 1 hr</td>
<td>Theatre 3 hrs</td>
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<td><strong>Study Leave</strong></td>
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Study Centre
Opening times:
Monday–Thursday: 8.15am – 4.00pm
Friday: 8.15 am – 3.30 pm
Students and Staff may use the facilities before and after school, or during break and lunchtime for book selection, research or for a quiet place to sit and do homework. Alternatively, there is a broad range of magazines and newspapers, chess and Sudoku and other games to challenge the little grey cells!

In addition to the Study Centre is a dedicated Sixth Form area. This is a quiet study area which is available for Year

Don’t forget, you can check all term dates on our website – www.thepolesworthschool.com

Letters
Think you’ve missed a letter from school?
Our letters—including Trip letters— can be found on our website under the School Life section.

Parent Pay Shop
Parent Pay Shop items available to purchase are School Ties, Revision Guides, Calculators and Art Supplies.
Click on www.polesworthschool.com and then click on the shopping trolley.

Follow us on Twitter! @PolesworthSchl

Contact Us
The Polesworth School
Dordon Road
Dordon
Tamworth
Staffordshire
B78 1QT
Telephone Number: 01827 702205
Fax Number: 01827 702206
School email for general queries: admin@thepolesworthschool.com
To inform us your child is absent: attendance@thepolesworthschool.com
Opening Hours
Monday to Thursday: 7.45 am to 4.45 pm
Friday: 7.45 am to 4.15 pm