

September 2015

I hope you had a wonderful summer break. We have had an absolutely brilliant start to the academic year with a noticeable improvement in how smart the girls look! Thank you to all parents who have supported the changes we have introduced- it makes all the difference!

It was fabulous to meet all our Year 7 and Year 12 students last Wednesday. They all arrived extremely well-organised and ready to learn and embrace their education at Skipton Girls' High School. We believe the introduction of our new student planners, the new Rewards and Consequences System and the removal of Mobile Phones usage from the school day will all support students in achieving their very best!

It's no secret that our students achieve outstanding results academically but, this year we are doubly celebrating, as the percentage of our A Level A*/A/B grades placed us as the *highest achieving state school in Yorkshire* – something our students and staff should take enormous pride in.

I want to congratulate all of our students who sat exams this summer. Our GCSE results were equally as impressive for both attainment and progress. The critical thing for us is to add value – ensuring that the teaching and learning, curriculum and support we offer is highly successful at stretching and challenging our very able students.

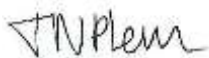
The most significant piece of work for school leaders has been our 1.7 million pound New Build – an innovative learning environment providing much needed space for **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) education**. In addition, Humanities and English lessons will also benefit from this new learning environment as will the local community. I am enormously grateful to all parents and businesses who have pledged resources and funding - with this crucial support we have been able to purchase cutting-edge equipment and furniture. **Thank you!**

With only 8 weeks to go before we move into the STEM Centre we are still working tirelessly to fund raise with a goal of £250,000 still to achieve. In the next few weeks we will be launching **FRIENDS of SGHS**. Our aim is for Friends of SGHS to become an association that helps provide funds for the school to improve facilities, support refurbishment projects and to afford extra resources and facilities for your daughter and to have lots of fun while doing so. Please keep an eye on our website and SIMs In-touch for a full list of forthcoming fundraising events and activities and ways you could get involved in the life of the school.

Looking ahead this term we have a multitude of exciting things planned, starting with the **Year 7 Race Night on Wednesday 23rd September at 6.30pm**, inc. Pizza and cakes from our very own Catering Academy. The event is led by the Head Girl and House Captain Teams and will be highly competitive fun!

We will also be welcoming the **Manchester School of Architecture** and international construction company **Laing O Rourke** into school, who will be working on major new innovative projects with our girls – this is part of our ambitious programme to provide **ALL** our students with inspiring real-world learning experiences.

Wishing you all a great Autumn term ahead.



Mrs J Plews
Headteacher

