

21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

## END OF YEAR UPDATE LETTER

Dear Parent/Carer

The conclusion of another fantastic year at Corby Technical School is signalled by this update letter. Observing our Year 13 and Year 11 students devote themselves so enthusiastically to their studies in anticipation of their final GCSE and A level exams has been an incredible experience. These students have established a foundation of aim and ambition for our lower year groups to follow in the years to come by demonstrating that they are good role models for our younger students. We are looking forward to Year 13 students will receiving their A level results on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August with Year 11 GCSE results on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

Corby Technical School has been able to offer a huge range of trips and visits this term with Year 12 student undertaking a fieldwork trip to Liverpool as part of their Geography course. Sixth form students have completed University trips and are looking forward to their next steps following A level results day. Students in Year 7-10 visited Alton Towers as a reward and over 500 students took part over the four days. Year 7 were able to take part in an activity week and visited Rutland Water, Corby International Pool, Savoy Cinema and enjoyed lots of activities in school. The students had an amazing week spending time with their peers and tutors. Year 6 students visited school on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July for their transition day and had the opportunity to meet their tutors.

Thank you to the parents/carers that were able to attend our parental events this year, these have included Learning Insight evenings for students In Year 7 and 8, Year 9 Options evening, Now and Next for students in Year 10 and 11 and our Sixth Form open evenings. We also welcomed parents/carers of our new Year 7 cohort into school for an information evening and we held a SEND information event, both were a great success.

We are delighted that our after-school co-curricular provision has been so well attended by students throughout the year. In addition to this, all students have enjoyed a range of extra-curricular excursions within the school day that have been fantastic opportunities to experience learning and broaden their horizons, including workshops with Medical Mavericks, Fuse and Resilient Me. As we move into our new academic year, we will be offering more opportunities to all our students.

Students took part in Sports Days this week, with Year 7 and 8 on Monday and Year 9 and 10 on Wednesday. The students really enjoyed competing against each other and it was lovely to see parents and carers supporting their children. The winners for each year group were 7TE, 8TA, 9TU and 10CO.

Further recent celebrations have included our Year 11 Prom and a Celebration of Culture day. The Prom was fabulous night, it was lovely to see the students come together and celebrate their CTS journey with their cohort and staff and we hope to welcome many of them back to CTS as sixth form students. On our Celebration of Culture day 29 students and teachers paraded the flags of their heritage to emphasise the diversity of the school community. The school's Samba band led the parade around the premises and students lined the corridors, cheering the band on. Throughout the week, assemblies were led by students who read traditional poems and discussed the importance of diversity in modern society and the advantages that it brings to our communities. Several dance workshops took place throughout the week, including an African dance workshop showcasing a range of skills and techniques and a visit from a Highland dance group who shared some traditional Scottish heritage with the students. Lunch breaks were extended throughout the week to allow for performances from students of all different cultural backgrounds. This included African and Irish dances, Hindu Mantras and music from the school's Samba and Ukelele groups, followed by a fashion parade showcasing a variety of traditional clothing from different cultures. The catering team offered a wide variety of foods each lunchtime so that students could experience the taste of other cultures.

As part of the County Schools Challenge, an initiative coordinated by Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service to educate secondary school students on important social issues. Early this year students were tasked with creating an idea related to arson. The students reached the finals which was held on Monday 3rd June, at The Castle

Theatre Wellingborough. Young people from eight secondary schools across Northamptonshire presented their social enterprise idea on this year's theme of arson to a 'Dragons' Den' style panel of judges. The discerning panel of "dragons" consisted of Chief Constable Nick Adderley, Matt Gillett – Lead for Fire Setters, Chief Fire Officer Mark Jones QFSM, Debbie Lloyd – Northamptonshire Children's Trust and Stephen Mold, Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Northamptonshire. We are delighted that our students won the final and the judges said, "power point was slick, the girls were professional, and students were faultless when questions were put to them". The team walked away with £2,000 funding from the OPFCC (Office of Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner) to make their idea become a reality. We are incredibly proud of our students.

Finally, we welcome our incoming cohort of Year 7 students, joining us on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. They will join our vibrant school and our older students will no doubt make the new students quickly feel part of our school community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout this year, and I wish you all well for the Summer break.

We look forward to seeing our students again on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 when the school re-opens.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Reynolds', written in a cursive style.

Mrs A Reynolds  
Principal