

8 September 2009

Dear Parent

Challenge Days are an opportunity for students to learn in a style different to the usual timetable days. We are improving the concept of immersion and flexible learning days to create time for activities and concepts that would not fit into normal lessons.

On Thursday the 1st October there is a Challenge Day for the whole school. The theme for Y8 on this day will be **Aspirations**. We want to spend the time starting the students thinking about these questions:

- Who do you want to become?
- In ten years time, what do you want other people to say about you?
- Who do you follow?
- Who influences you now?
- What might your path be like?
- Does it matter if you are male or female?

As part of this day we would like the students to hear from the “voice of experience” and, rather than listen to their teachers (again!), we would like to invite any parents that are available to come in and take the hot-seat for a few minutes. This would probably be with a couple of classes at the most for around 10 or 15 min each, somewhere between 9:30 and 11 am. If parents know of someone else who fits the bill, and can come in on recommendation, then that would be great, even if the parent cannot come in themselves.

The aim would be to give the students an idea of the variety of paths people can take in life. The emphasis would be answering their questions about what has happened to you between leaving school and now, whether that is in training, education, building a home, the voluntary sector or employment.

I understand that some of you may be engaged in work or other activities that make this a difficult appointment to make, and that you will be likely to be coming into school with your children for the annual review meetings on 21st October. However, if you are able to take an hour out of your schedule for this the school and students would be most grateful.

If you are willing and able to meet this request please could you let me know by contacting me at school, preferably via my email, clark.s@bournville.bham.sch.uk, but a phone call, letter or personal visit is fine.

I look forward to hearing from you

Steve Clark, Deputy Head