



The Ripley Academy

A member of the East Midlands Education Trust

www.ripleyacademy.org
01773 746334
enquiries@ripleyacademy.org

Headteacher: Mrs L Walton BA (Hons)
Headteacher/Head of School: Mr J de Rijk BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: Miss J Scattergood (BEd)

6 December 2019

Dear Ripley Academy students

I wanted to write to you as we start to think about consolidating this term's learning, to thank you for the way that you have embraced the responsibility that I have given you for the next stage in improving our school.

In particular, I am pleased to see that the vast majority of you are leading the way in transforming our school from one which is led by adults to one that is led by all of us. This really is quite remarkable. I think that the following areas are particularly impressive:

Dressing Up Your Language for School

I have really noticed how articulate you are becoming – befitting of an academic and professional environment that we are striving to embed here at The Ripley Academy.

Visiting staff have commented to me about how impressed that have been by your maturity in talking about your learning and your values. This is so important for your future success particularly in the world of work – well done.

Moving from Rules to Values

I saw this in action on Wednesday when Monsal House lined up for assembly of their own accord – without the need for an adult to be there. I could also see from assembly this week where you chose the '6/10 lesson' rather than the '9/10' lesson that you were truly changing your outlook and mind sets. The glass truly is half-full!

Precious Lesson Time

As you know, the busy bee likes to visit your lessons and I am regularly impressed by your levels of concentration and respect for the work that is being done in the classroom. Your written work looks so good too – lots of extended writing and I can see that you try to improve your work every time that you get some feedback from your teacher. I also like that you have started to engage well with your teachers about what you are learning and why and that you don't want the easy way out! This means that you are truly becoming partners in learning with the adults in the school.

You

Finally, I never would have dreamed that I could work with such a wonderful group of students. Like anyone, we have our fair share of problems but the way in which you have started to resolve these for yourselves through mutually understanding and talking things through makes me so proud to be your Headteacher. You have really embraced that the next step for the school is 'all of us'.

I just wanted to say thank you on a rainy Friday morning, to let you know how well you are doing and to demonstrate my appreciation of how you understand that the next stage of making The Ripley Academy a beacon of excellence is now up to you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L J Walton
Executive Headteacher

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.