

19th September 2023

Dear families

Re: Funeral for Neve Cotgrave-Hewitt

I am immensely proud of how our school community has pulled together during such a difficult start to the academic year. I asked students to be calm, considerate, and look out for one another. They have done this and should be commended for their compassion. I would also like to thank our superb pastoral teams who have been inundated with concerns and emotions but have always put others first.

On Friday, I went to Birmingham Childrens Hospital and met with Brad and his family who were all in good spirits despite the horrific injuries. We also managed to get an update on the other young man who is currently at a separate Birmingham hospital.

Whilst our best wishes go out to these boys, our deepest condolences go out to the parents and family of Neve. In conjunction with parents and Neve's closest friends we have named a new meeting room in her honour and will be planting a tree where her current temporary memorial stands. We are working with both the family and friends to ensure that the artwork within this new room will leave a poignant reminder of a young life that ended so tragically prematurely.

On Wednesday 27th September the funeral will be held in St Nicholas Church in Newport at 2pm. Close friends are invited to attend, and this absence will be honoured. As a mark of respect, the funeral cortege will come past the school along Audley Avenue prior to the service, and students will line the street to pay their respects. If there are any students who may find this too upsetting, then they will of course be allowed to remain within the building.

Following this event, students will be allowed to leave the site to go home. Any students who get a bus or cannot leave the site early will be supervised within school until the normal finishing time.

Yours sincerely



Ben Morgan
Acting Principal