



Dear parents,

One of the main focuses on our School Development Plan is Growth Mindset. Growth Mindset refers to a learning theory developed by Dr Carol Dweck. It revolves around the belief that you can improve intelligence, ability and performance. The opposite, a fixed mindset, refers to the belief that a person's talents are set in stone. Years of research have shown that mindset is malleable. This means that by helping students to develop a Growth Mindset, we can help them to learn more effectively and efficiently.

We have completed many activities to develop pupils' Growth Mindset. Assemblies have focused on never giving up, continuing to challenge yourself and how making a mistake is part of learning. Our marking of pupils' books is more focused on the effort and application rather than just the answers provided. Feedback and language used is about how to improve work and what to do next. Whilst providing afternoon cover, Mrs McIvor completed a series of age appropriate lessons from Shirley Clarke, a very successful author, aimed at developing a Growth Mindset. Mrs Magorrian attended numerous training sessions in developing a Growth Mindset.

As part of our PEACE IV project with Spa we have been able to buy in the service of Cormac Venney from HIPerformance Consultancy to work with the P4-P7 pupils. Last academic year Cormac completed 2 workshops with the pupils.

- Workshop 1 aimed to develop pupils' resilience, work ethic and self-esteem.
- Workshop 2 aimed to develop an understanding of how to maintain emotional control in the midst of stressful situations, to enable clarity of thought under pressure.

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Research has shown that parents can help their child develop a Growth Mindset by praising their efforts rather than praising their existing talents. Other research suggests that presenting failures in a more positive light can encourage learning and in turn increase your child's belief that they can improve.

With this in mind, I have organised a parental workshop with Cormac Venney on **Thursday 10th October at 7pm lasting approximately 90mins**. During this fun workshop, Cormac will outline the work he has completed with the pupils and give us an insight into how we can help to develop the pupils' mindset outside school. This promises to be a fun night as the pupils have really enjoyed the workshops with Cormac.

I hope you can join us.

Many Thanks

John-Paul Magee

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