

29<sup>th</sup> September 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

Wow – what a week!

Over 250 families joined us for our Open Evening on Wednesday. There was a buzz of excitement around the school as Pakefield's potential new recruits sampled activities from a range of subject areas. The key piece of feedback I got was that school was too busy, and some visitors couldn't see everything they wanted to (or find a parking space). We are running a series of tours during the school day to come back and see us in action. Please contact reception if you would like to take us up on this offer.

I am especially proud of Evie, Alice, Erin, Marley and Rhea in Year 8 who supported me with my speech to parents. They displayed exceptional courage and confidence to stand up in front of a packed hall and talk about their experiences at Pakefield – my gratitude to each of you!

Our Open Evening coincided with a visit from OFSTED, who conducted a full two day inspection on Wednesday and Thursday. I am unable to share the final grading until the report is published in a few weeks. What I can say is that the inspection team noted that the school is rapidly improving, and that students are proud to belong to the school community. They fed back to me that students are looked after at Pakefield, and our young people told inspectors they feel cared for.

There will be more feedback from the report in the coming weeks, but I was delighted that inspectors recognised how the school has transformed from the previous inspection, and am in awe of the staff and students I have the pleasure to work with every day.

With best wishes for the weekend!

Mr Dan Bagshaw

Head of School