

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the end of the half term, we thought we would once again share some of the highlights with you from the last six weeks.

### **A busy half term for PE**

It has been another fantastic half term in the PE Department. Athletics is always a popular sport for all year groups and our pupils have not disappointed. We have had several records 'smashed' in the high jump. A special mention to Tilly in Y7. She jumped a huge 1.31m, well done Tilly. Benji in Y8 broke a record that has stood for over 25 years by jumping 1.56m and Will in Y10 jumped a massive 1.76. Incredible achievements from all three of our students.

Equally as impressive are some of our football achievements. Our Y7 boys narrowly lost in the ER Plate final to a very stubborn Beverley Grammar side. A superb achievement, reaching a cup final in their first year. Year 9 came out victorious in the East Riding Plate final, winning it for the second year running. Year 10 played back to back finals (Wednesday and Thursday) and won both the East Riding Plate and the Humberside Cup. A massive well done to all our football teams this year.

Other special mentions are girls' cricket and rounders club on a Wednesday night has been well attended. Thanks to Chris Thornton for giving up his time to coach the cricket team, it is very much appreciated.

We have a lot of exciting sporting events to look forward to in the remaining few weeks of the year. We are taking 60 boys to Barcelona on a football tour in May half term and our Y10 Cambridge National group have Welton Waters to look forward to. Finally, we have our annual Costello athletics event and our School Sports Day. It is going to be a very enjoyable last half term.



## Wellbeing Ambassadors

The Wellbeing Ambassadors have been planting trees kindly donated by the NHS Tree for Life Scheme and getting the Wellbeing Garden ready to be used in the next half term as a quiet space for students to study, read and socialise.



## The English Department on tour

April and May have been busy months for the department in terms of broadening the literary and cultural experience of pupils. The annual, and always popular, Shakespeare's Globe weekend visit was a great success. Combining sightseeing and shopping in London, 40 pupils enjoyed dinner on London's South Bank before an amazing evening performance of *A Midsummer's Night's Dream* at The Globe. We returned to the theatre the following morning for a behind-the-scenes tour of the theatre's history and traditions. We even managed to cram in a visit to The Tate Modern.



Over a hundred Year 10 pupils were also able to experience the theatre, watching J. B. Priestley's classic play *An Inspector Calls* in Bradford. The text forms part of their GCSE literature course and we had a memorable evening watching the National Theatre's brilliantly acted and thought-provoking production at The Alhambra.

## Bon Voyage for the French Department et al

During the Easter holidays we took 55 Year 10 and 11 GCSE French students to Normandy. It was an immersion trip during which they completed cultural and sporting activities entirely in French. They visited Mont St Michel, bought their picnic items at a local market and cuddled baby goats at a goat farm. It was great to see our students gain confidence with speaking and listening and their perfect conduct was commented on by the centre staff, coach driver and at every location we visited.



## Wellbeing and MIND

As we are coming to the end of the school year, we will complete our wellbeing programme in partnership with MIND through our Whole school approach. Below is an outline of the workshops all students have had the opportunity to attend within the school day. This will of course continue into next year and is designed to help our students not only understand mental health and wellbeing, but also give them the skills/tools to deal with exam pressures and anxiety.

Y6	Transition & self-care
Y7	5 Ways to Wellbeing
Y8	How to have a conversation about mental health
Y9	Self-Esteem, Confidence
Y10	Resilience & Adult Life
Y11	School Life & Exam Stress

The number of students who have accessed these workshops to date is 707. This will increase again when Year 10 students complete sessions at the end of this term.

In addition to workshops, we have continued with the following things:

- 1-1 wellbeing drop in sessions used by 104 students
- Wellbeing Ambassador Training for 16 students
- Pupil Resilience Programme delivered to 30 students

## Spring Music Concert

The Spring Concert took place on the evening of 10 May. Over 30 pupils were involved from all year groups as well as teaching and peripatetic staff (thanks to Mr Jenkins, Ms Reynolds and Mrs Wilden). We had a varied programme of pop, rock, jazz, musical theatre and classical music performed by the School Band, Choir, Year 7/8 Band and the Year 9/10 Band. Highlights included the band and singers performing *Space Man* by Sam Ryder and *Live Forever* by Oasis, Jeffrey Kidd and Maddy Radmall wrote and performed their own compositions and we had a variety of soloists including a piano, flute and vocal solo. The choir performed numbers by the Beach Boys, David Guetta and Pompeii, and the band performed *Mercy, Mercy, Mercy* by Cannonball Adderley. The Year 7/8 band performed *Radioactive* and the Year 9/10 band performed *Should I Stay or Should I Go*. It was an enjoyable night for all and notably the final performance for three Year 11 students – Owen Broom, Mia Kaiser-Morris and Maddy Radmall – we want to thank them for all their support throughout the years and wish them all the best for their exams and future musical endeavours.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event.

## Upcoming Events:

- The first Sports Tour since the pandemic heads for Barcelona during the half term break. We hope they all have a great time and we will look forward to seeing the updates on Twitter.
- In the next half term, Year 7 will be visiting Snaith Priory and Leeds Islamic Centre to explore further the ideas of how religious people practice their faith.
- Year 11 Leavers' Day will be on 15<sup>th</sup> June this year.
- Year 11 Prom is at Cave Castle on 23<sup>rd</sup> June.
- Pride Colour Run – June 26<sup>th</sup> after school. (Details to follow)
- Headteacher 'drop-in' is planned for 28<sup>th</sup> June. Details on booking appointments to follow.
- Year 6 Transition Days will be 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June. Parents/Carers will be invited in on 29<sup>th</sup> June to meet staff and find out more about the school.
- Prison Me No Way Workshop for Year 9 is booked for 3<sup>rd</sup> July.
- Year 7 will be exploring the gothic genre in Whitby on July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Two weeks of work experience for Year 10 will commence on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.
- College taster days for Year 10 students are scheduled for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

Have a lovely half term break. School reopens to all students on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M J Blackledge  
Head teacher