
February 10th 2023

Dear parent/carer,

As we reach the end of the half term, here are some highlights, updates and notifications of upcoming events.

Congratulations to Bronwen in Year 7 who received a letter of reply from the Prime Minister's office this half term. Bronwen had written to the PM, outlining her concern for the state of our planet and the lack of urgency from the government to address important issues such as deforestation. Well done, Bronwen! We are very proud of you.

January Training Day

The focus of this day was Special Educational Needs and how we meet the needs of our pupils. On this day, we had speakers presenting on: Tourettes, Acquired Brain Injuries, Attachment Disorder and Trauma and Neurodiversity. Following this, staff have been using the knowledge gained to inform their planning and review their teaching pedagogy to ensure all pupils can fully access the curriculum.

TSS Pastoral Twitter account

Like many departments in school, the pastoral team have now gone live on Twitter. This account will tweet out the winners of 'Superstar of the Week' and 'Super Super Star' plus our successful High Flyers and Top Triers. It will also advertise key events such as the recent careers fair. Please note this will not replace other forms of communication.

100 Club

Alongside Superstar qualification which recognises pupil attendance on a weekly basis, we are now also congratulating those pupils who have made it into the elite '100 Club'. We currently have too many names to share here but keep an eye out on the pastoral twitter page for those pupils who have maintained a 100% attendance since September.

Careers Fair

It was great to be able to get back to holding this event and we were delighted to welcome a number of colleges including Selby, Pontefract and York. We also welcomed Trinity Academy Sixth Form and South Hunsley School Sixth Form showing just how many options are open to our pupils. HETA, Croda, BAE, the Army and Siemens also attended and it was wonderful to see former pupil Oliver Arnold representing BAE and sharing his successful apprenticeship journey with our current pupils.

Mock interview day for Year 11

Year 11 looked particularly smart on 2nd February as they took part in mock interviews with local employers. Each employer identified the pupil that they would have given the job to based on interview performance and winners will be announced after the half term break.

A big thank you to all the employers, staff, governors and friends of the school who supported this invaluable experience for our pupils alongside Mrs Marsham and Mrs Taylor who make up our careers team.



Work Experience

A reminder that Year 10 work experience commences on 3rd July for two weeks this year. Please return signed work experience agreement forms to the Careers Office by Tuesday 28th February 2023.

Passport to the Prom

Passport to the Prom has been launched and Year 11 are doing well and are on track to secure their invitation and enjoy a fabulous evening at Cave Castle. We have 10 weeks left so please continue to encourage and support your child.

Just a reminder that the criteria is:

- To achieve 45 rewards stamps a week from a possible 90 (not including bonus stamps)
- No more than 35 written warnings during 'Passport to Prom' (the average in year 11 is less than one a week.)
- Excellent attendance (Individual cases will be reviewed)

This year, more than ever, we are encouraging pupils to consider ways of reducing the cost of prom. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that the local charity 'Say Yes to the Prom Dress' will be in school on February 23rd at 5.30pm. This charity loans dresses and suits to pupils; helping parents/carers to avoid purchasing expensive items that are often only worn for a few hours. If you would like to get in touch independent of school, please email: danihuntington@live.com



Trips

It is wonderful to see pupils enjoying a wider range of trips once again. Recently, we have seen pupils visiting Aston Villa's ground to cheer on the women's team, a GCSE Drama trip watched a production of 'Around the World in 80 Days' at York Theatre Royal and this week the English Department took GCSE students to see a production of 'An Inspector Calls' at York Opera House.

Furthermore, the PE department organised a huge bake sale to raise funds for the upcoming Barcelona sports tour. Thanks to your baking and buying, they raised a staggering £360!



After half term, we have an RE visit to a Synagogue and plans are in place for our MFL trip to Northern France and GCSE PGL English and Maths revision weekend.

Lastly, we will be launching rewards trips after half term which this year will include: Alton Towers, Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Go Ape and Meadowhall. Trips will take place in the autumn term again to keep costs down.

Options Process Year 9

Just a reminder that options forms are due in on Monday 20th February. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Charlton, Year Leader for Year 9.

NEU Strike action

Thank you for your understanding during the industrial action on 1st February. We are now making plans for the subsequent days of industrial action. The next date is: 28th February and we will communicate our plan just after the half term break.

Y11 Progress Evening and Revision

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended this online event to discuss your child's progress in the mock examinations. The attendance was the best we have seen post Covid with very few parents/carers not attending. We hope you have a good understanding of how your child performed in the exams and, as a result, know what teachers are predicting your child will achieve in the summer examinations. We are being very clear with pupils that these estimated grades can go up or down depending on their work rate and attitude between now and the final exams.

With this in mind, we are launching period 6 sessions after the half term break. Unfortunately, we do not have funding available this year for transport but we are hopeful that the majority of pupils will be able to attend by making alternative arrangements on service buses or by sharing lifts.

In addition, all year 11 pupils will have time to revise as part of the form time programme on a morning. We have encouraged all pupils to make a revision plan. It is important they start now by doing small bursts of revision and build momentum as they get closer to the start of the exam season.

Preloved Uniform

We have high expectations for uniform and thanks to your support, our pupils look extremely smart. We constantly review the cost of uniform and avoid lots of branded items. Where possible, we also signpost suitable high street store/supermarket items. To add to this, our parent Association (SSA) now run a 'Preloved' uniform service and we currently have a good stock of blazers, trousers and skirts. If you are interested in our preloved uniform, which can be bought for a minimal donation, please contact the school on:

preloved@thesnaithschool.org.uk

Snaith School Association

It has been lovely to see new members joining our very effective parent organisation. SSA members give up their own time to fundraise for the school and do a fantastic job. If you would like to get involved, the commitment can be very small, don't hesitate to get in touch with Rachel Heald in the main office.

Upcoming fundraising events are:

Bingo on 27th March. Everybody is welcome with eyes down at 7.15pm. If you can't attend or volunteer, parents/carers and other family members and friends can help by donating a prize.

School lottery – this is great fundraiser for the school. Details and tickets are available via the website:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-snaith-school>

Bags2School – our next collection is 24th March. Please leave all donations outside the main reception (in the bike shed). The charity collects any clothing (except branded school uniform) and the money donated to school is based on weight. As a result, we will happily accept bags of shoes (they have to be pairs that are tied together.) Thank you.

Key dates for the next half term are:

Wednesday 1st March- Headteacher drop in. This is an opportunity to meet with myself and raise any concerns, provide the school with feedback or make any suggestions. To make an appointment please contact Louise Brodigan in school.

Thursday 9th March – Steps to Success for Year 11 Parent/carers. This is our last parent/carer event year 11 parents/carers in the run up to the GCSE exams.

Thursday 23rd and Wednesday 29th March – Year 7 Progress Evenings. Details will be sent out following the half term break.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Blackledge
Headteacher