

15th December 2022

Dear parent/carer,

Before we break up on Friday, I wanted to share some of the highlights of this term with you and draw your attention to some upcoming events and/or important information. Despite the dark mornings and evenings, the freezing cold weather and various bugs, we have enjoyed a number of events and successes since I last wrote to you.

Firstly, many thanks for your on-going support particularly attending parents' evenings and a number of face to face events that we have held for different year groups this term. I am also grateful to those who took the time to complete the survey on communication between home and school. I am now in the process of reading the responses and I will share the feedback with you early in the new year.

Highlights from this term:

We celebrated **Anti-bullying Week** this year by once again taking part in Odd Socks Day and holding special assemblies for every year group in school. Form time activities also focused on this important message. We ended the week by launching the start of our campaign to receive the 'United Against Bullying' Award and we will keep you updated on our progress as we progress through the stages.



We raised awareness of Men's health by celebrating **Robert Louis Stevenson Day** and linking it to 'Movember'. Staff and students 'flashed their taches' alongside studying extracts from Stevenson's famous work, such as Treasure Island, across subject areas. A number of staff also abstained from shaving to raise money for testicular cancer. During form time activities, attention was drawn to the importance of men's health and Mr Williams held special assemblies throughout the week.



The whole school community (over a thousand people) paid respect and showed gratitude to the armed services at our **Remembrance Event**. As always, this was a moving tribute and we could not have been prouder of our students, particularly those who attended in uniform and paraded in front of staff and students. Mr Williams shared a poem in tribute to those who lost their lives and Mr Nichols played the “The Last Post” to start and end our two-minute silence.



A big thank you to the SSA (Snaith School Association) who funded **Book Buzz** for us this year. This meant every Year 7 student received a book for Christmas. Here is our Book Buzz Christmas Tree in all its glory in the library. Events that you support, such as the community Christmas bingo organised by the fabulous SSA volunteers, provides the funds for projects such as this.



This week:

We are ending the term on a high note with our Christmas Show on Thursday evening at 6.30pm. (15th December). Tickets can be purchased on the door so come along and enjoy an evening of live music, dance and drama. Also, students are being recognised for their excellent effort, behaviour and attendance throughout the week, in year group celebration assemblies. We have plenty of sweets, chocolate hampers and certificates to award. Finally, Friday is non-uniform day. There is no fee for this day as students have donated items to the local food bank instead through our reverse advent calendar. The response, as always, has been overwhelming and in addition to the significant donation to The Two Rivers charity, we have been able to assemble a number of hampers for some families who contacted us. You really have made a difference to a number of students, their families and the local community this Christmas. Thank you.



Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 students approached these exams with maturity and confidence. The invigilators have commented on how well behaved and responsible Year 11 have been throughout the two weeks and we now look forward to results' day on 2nd February following a thorough process of marking and moderation across trust schools. Following mock results, we will launch period six sessions and hold 'Final Steps to Success' evening for parents/carers. In the meantime, the message to students is to keep revising and not wait for mock results. On speaking to students, they know which subjects and topics they found more difficult and it is these areas they can be revisiting rather than waiting. We will of course celebrate the hard work, effort and great attitude of year 11 students at prom which will take place on 23rd June at Cave Castle.



Sustainability

We have set ourselves some ambitious aims to become more sustainable. In assemblies we have shared our progress with students and outlined some of our next steps. Alongside electric charging points, and a move towards LED lighting and a more efficient heating system, we are making great strides forward with recycling and reducing our use of single use plastics. From January, we will not sell any bottled water in school. Other drinks in cartons will be available but we have been reminding students this term to invest in a refillable water bottle. Please can we ask parents/carers to support us by providing a bottle for your child. It could be a very useful stocking filler! Thank you.

Winter Water Safety

I am sure you have seen the tragic news this week from Solihull. In response, we have spoken to students about winter water safety in form time. The following websites are helpful for parents/carers to reinforce the key messages about keeping safe.

<https://humbersidfire.gov.uk/your-safety/water-safety-and-drowning-prevention>
[Winter Water Safety | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)

Upcoming Events in the New Year (further details will follow):

Y9 Progress Evening 12th Jan and 18th Jan

Y11 Progress Evening 2nd and 8th February


Mock exam reports published 2nd February

Y11 Final Steps to Success Evening 9th March

I would like to thank the staff for their hard work this term. The trips and events that take place in addition to our school's curriculum would not be possible without their good will, enthusiasm and commitment. Also, 'goodbye' to Will Wattam who is leaving our site team for a new challenge. We wish him the best of luck and hope all he has learnt as a former student and then an apprentice serves him well.

Lastly, have a happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year. School reopens to all students on Wednesday 4th January.

Best Wishes



Mrs M J Blackledge