

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

Last week, as you will be aware, we welcomed a team of Ofsted inspectors into school on Tuesday and Wednesday. We were really pleased to have the opportunity to share our school context, our strengths and our priorities for development. Inspectors had the opportunity to speak with lots of our students, many of whom were described as amazing ambassadors for our school. They also shared that many parents had shared really positive comments about the school – thank you for your support. We will look forward to sharing the full report when it becomes available, together with guidance around the new reporting style.

The inspection last week did mean that we had to make some last-minute changes to our 22 Days of Mr Connors programme, including postponing the hotly contested Y11 vs Staff football match. Eventually the students came out victorious, narrowly defeating the staff team 10 : 9. We think this is because Mr Devaney was exhausted after all of his meetings last week! Hopefully their victory is a sign of great things to come for their GCSE exams.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

## Fundraising update

Thank you to all members of our school community for incredible fund raising efforts so far. We are creeping ever closer to £15 000.

An amazing mark of the love and respect surrounding Mr Connors.



**Thanks to a very generous donation, we are able to offer for auction a pair of Chairman's Lounge tickets to the final match of the season at Turf Moor: Burnley v Wolves, including a three-course meal.**

Thanks to the PTFA for organising this auction. Please use the link below to bid for this amazing prize by 10<sup>th</sup> May.

[https://www.32auctions.com/organizations/138030/auctions/199798/auction\\_items/6944254](https://www.32auctions.com/organizations/138030/auctions/199798/auction_items/6944254)



Update re WW2 bomb that Cameron found last year in the river! The Navy returned the casing to Cameron (it is going into a local museum).



## Nidderdale PTFA

Our newly formed PTFA has made a real impact in terms of fundraising for general use and some specific support with our '22 Days of Mr Connors' campaign.

Alongside the exciting auction opportunity mentioned above, the Key Stage 4 Colour Run is the next eagerly anticipated fun fundraising event on 22 May.

The vast majority of funds raised are available to support experiences and resources to enrich our students' regular school experience, including funds for rewards in school.

If you would like to support our school and become a member of our fantastic PTFA, please contact [nidderdaleptfa@gmail.com](mailto:nidderdaleptfa@gmail.com) to learn more.

Thank you to Bethan & Florence for their superb work with students from Glasshouses Primary at Brimham Rocks. The girls showed great planning & preparation, care for the children, setting of appropriate challenges and absolutely ensured every child had an enjoyable morning.



In order to mark World Book Day, students took part in a creative competition to design a book cover for a biography of *Oleg the Meerkat*.

With so many high-quality entries, choosing the winners was no easy task!

Well done to everyone who took part, and a special congratulations to our winners James, Ethan and Elijah.

Miss Lester



### Park Run News

Congratulations to Ben who very successfully Race Directed his first Parkrun last weekend at Fountains Abbey. This is no small task and involves addressing around 500 runners, welcoming new comers, briefing all runners on the course and safety matters before finally starting the race. Ben very diligently prepared his speech for this, tried his best to make it entertaining and even practiced it on the obliging Nidd High Runners the week before! Well done Ben - a fantastic journey from someone who used to hate running and a fine example of how far commitment, resilience and determination can take you.



### Our school needs you!

We are looking to grow and develop our Local Governing Body (LGB) – Would you like to find out more about being a governor or do you know someone who might?

We will be advertising for a parent governor in due course, but we would also like to hear from friends, grandparents, businesses and anyone else within our local community who would like to be part of the governance of our wonderful school.

Maybe your children have been through Nidderdale, and you are grateful for the experience they received and ready to give something back? Or do you know, for example:

- Someone working in another local school or recently retired from one who would be able to contribute their expertise?
- Someone with public sector experience, passionate about improving or investing in the lives of our young people?
- Someone running a business within the local community, keen to ensure that the employees of the future are ready to flourish.

Whether you wish to offer your time, or whether you would just like to find out more, we would love to hear from you. Please contact [admin@nidderdale.mlt.co.uk](mailto:admin@nidderdale.mlt.co.uk) to express your interest.

## Optional PE Shirt

We have an exciting **optional** new addition to our school PE kit - a collarless technical t-shirt, in school colours and embroidered with the Nidd High logo. This is an example of a student led change - if you put your case forward convincingly, you never know what might happen! Thank you to the Yr 9 girls, for voicing your wishes & ideas to the school. This uniform addition would not have happened without you!

The new shirt is now available at Rawcliffes in Harrogate for £16. See link below:

<https://www.rawcliffesharrogate.co.uk/high-schools/nidderdale-high-school>



## Outdoors? – Be Tick aware

It's important to be tick aware while enjoying the outdoors. Ticks are most active in the UK from March to October, with most bites commonly reported during May and June. They can carry pathogens (microorganisms that cause disease) such as [Lyme disease](#) and, more rarely, [tick-borne encephalitis](#).

Ticks live in many different outdoor environments, often found in woodland, rough upland or moorland pastures, heathland, grazed grasslands and some urban parks. You are more at risk of being bitten when taking part in activities such as hiking, cycling or camping, but ticks can also sometimes be found in urban gardens.

When you are enjoying the outdoors be tick aware and where possible:

- use an insect repellent that prevents ticks
- wear long sleeves and long trousers to prevent direct skin exposure
- keep to clearly defined paths and avoid brushing against vegetation
- check for ticks on young children, around their heads and necks
- when you're back indoors, check for any ticks on you, your children and pets

What to do if you're bitten:

- remove the tick as soon as you can, either using a tick removing device or fine-tipped tweezers
- grab the tick as close to the skin as you can and pull upwards
- clean the area with soap and water
- keep an eye on the bite area for a few weeks in case of any changes
- if you see a spreading bullseye rash developing, or you become unwell with flu-like symptoms or a headache, contact your GP or NHS 111 immediately.

Read more on the UKHSA website

- <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2024/03/21/what-is-lyme-disease-and-why-do-we-need-to-be-tick-aware/>

If you have any queries, please contact North Yorkshire Council Public Health team at [dph@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:dph@northyorks.gov.uk)

## North Yorkshire families: Build everyday emotional resilience!

Your free online learning. Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives. North Yorkshire Council gives families free access to Togetherness resources to support wellbeing.

For parents, carers, grandparents, and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life. [Browse pathways](#) Use the exclusive access code: nyfamilies

[Parents Mental Health Support | Advice for Your Child | YoungMinds](#)

If you're worried about your child or young person's mental health or wellbeing, you can speak to us over the phone or chat to us online. Our Helpline advisers can provide information, advice and support to help you take the next step.

[Contact our Parents Helpline](#)

Remember, it's okay to reach out for help. We all need a little extra support sometimes, and we hear from parents and carers just like you all the time.



Another fine day out with 15 students up Pen-y-Ghent - the second of our Three Peaks Hill days in memory of Mr Connors. The sun shone, the wind blew and Pen-y-Ghent was climbed so fast that we even had time for wheelbarrow races, three-legged races, piggy back races and crawling races on the summit! Many other games were enjoyed on the way down and great to see so many students from different year groups happily mixing and relishing the outdoors. An absolute pleasure spending the day with you all! Thank you for your fundraising efforts.

Miss Tuffs



### Three Peaks Complete

Thank you to all the students who participated in our ascent of Whernside. All three of the Yorkshire Three Peaks have now been summited individually, which leaves the final big challenge of all three peaks in a day, the last of our 22 events in memory of Mr Connors. There is a great deal of excitement about this, and it remains to be seen if Team Nidd are up to the task of completing the 24 mile route in under 12 hours..!



### Good Luck Year 11

GCSE exams start for all students on Monday – well done to our students who made a great start with German on Thursday. We wish all of our Year 11s the very best for the weeks ahead as they put all of their hard work and preparation into action.

