

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

It's been an exceptionally busy but hugely positive return to school this September. At 00:01 on Friday 1st September we reopened as Nidderdale High School, A Moorlands Academy Trust. You will see the MLT logo and the school's new logo appearing on documents and letters but other than that the only thing parents are likely to notice in the short term is an even sharper focus on being the best we can be.

We are delighted that, through the Trust, Mr Cook will be working with the school for 2 days each week in the role of Deputy Head. His main area of focus is the smooth operation of the changes we have agreed to our behaviour system and building on the existing positive and respectful relationships to fully engage all our young people with the ethos and culture of the school.

We look forward to welcoming prospective new families to view our school next week at our annual Open Evening. We are full in our current Years 7, 8 and 9 as families continue to recognise the benefits of our unique curriculum and pastoral offer. We will look forward to inviting existing families to a range of events across the year.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

## Roald Dahl Day

Wednesday 13th September was Roald Dahl Day. In the spirit of one of his best loved books, Golden Tickets were hidden around the school and students were invited to hunt for them. Lucky ticket finders were able to swap their tickets for a scrumdiddlyumptious Wonka bar!



## Exam success

Congratulations to all of our Year 11 'Class of 2023' students who received GCSE and BTEC results in August. As ever it was a real privilege to be able to join them in celebration and congratulate them on their hard work. We are delighted that all of our Year 11 leavers have secured their next steps from sixth form and college placements to apprenticeships and specialist vocational training, we wish them all the very best.

Many congratulations also to Ravi and Leyla who took GCSE German at the end of year 10, both achieving a hard-earned Grade 5 after attending after school lessons once per week. Amazing achievement!

Our target for school attendance is 95.5%

### ATTENDANCE FACTS



**95% Attendance and above:** 91 out of 100 students leave high school with 5 good GCSEs

Compared to

**90% Attendance and below:** 36 out of 100 students leave high school with 5 good GCSEs

0 days off school in a year 0 lessons missed	100%	Perfect attendance
1 days off school in a year 10 lessons missed	99%	Excellent attendance
2 days off school in a year 25 lessons missed	97%	Good attendance
3 days off school in a year 30 lessons missed	95%	Slightly below average attendance
4 days off school in a year 40 lessons missed	93%	Poor attendance
5 days off school in a year 50 lessons missed	90%	Very poor attendance

The greater your attendance, the greater your achievement.

A student who ends the school year on 90% attendance will have missed four complete weeks of school

Attendance is always included in progress reports in December, April and July

### Behaviour and Rewards

We have been really pleased to see our students returning to school with a commitment to being Ready, Respectful and Safe. We have already awarded over 11500 positive points, with a great many students heading towards their second 'clean slate' award and the vast majority achieving above 90% positive each week. Students have been working on strategy with form tutors to win the termly interform competition, which has been reinstated this year. Please look out for a letter from Mr Cook updating on some changes to our behaviour system and from Mrs Witherwick outlining Rewards for the year.

### Attendance Matters

It is a great start to the year with 91% of our student's achieving 100% Attendance the first week back at school.

Even though some student have had minor ailments, coughs and colds they have shown great resilience in still attending school.

Thank you to students and parents for all your efforts in supporting good attendance at Nidderdale.

Please see the letter sent to all parents / carers about the importance of good attendance.

### Welcome to Key Stage 4 Evening

Our Year 10 students have made a great start to their Key Stage 4 studies embarking on GCSE courses with maturity and focus. Miss Draper, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Eglin welcomed parents to an information evening on Thursday providing more information about expectations, support available and work experience plans for the summer term. The information will be made available to any parents / carers unable to attend.



**Coffee Morning for MacMillan**  
Please send in your cake / bakes / donations on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

### Congratulations Alanna Lock!

Alanna's poem, 'The Moon' has been selected for inclusion in the anthology of the best poems submitted to this year's Ripon Poetry Festival competition.

The moon is like the night sky sun,  
The stars are like the clouds  
Your glow shall shine through the night,  
Your smile lights up the northern lights,  
Yet when the sun comes up again,  
You hide your precious light,  
But when the sun goes down once more,  
You're there to guard the night.

### Message from Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England

Through 'The Big Ambition' survey I want to hear from children and young people about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. I am also asking what they want for their future, their hopes, dreams, and aspirations. This survey is for all children and young people aged 0 to 18. Children aged 6 to 18 can complete the survey themselves.

The survey can be completed here:  
[www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)

**Congratulations!**  
Tom (Year 9) won his first climbing competition on Sunday 3rd September in Harrogate in the category of Under 18's.



### Well done

During the summer Lily Martin (Year 7) walked all three peaks in one day! The conditions were horrendous - it rained all day, the wind and fog was insane and there was even two bouts of hail!! But she did it in 10 1/2 hours.

Well done indeed!