

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

After focusing on some of our traditional curriculum subjects in the last Nidd News, we have taken the opportunity in our final newsletter of the half term to showcase some of the more innovative aspects of our curriculum and the positive impact they can have on our students.

For our Year 11 students the focus on academics has continued with a really well attended Parents' Evening, an increase in the numbers of students attending lunchtime and after school revision and lots of important information being shared with parents. Please look out for communication from school regarding Mock Exam timetables and the exam handbook for candidates for all students and a course update for GCSE PE students.

This week as I have visited lessons, I have been really impressed to see Year 11 students and their teachers working with focus and determination even after 8 weeks in school without a break. Mrs Carpenter was running 'three lessons in one' with reviews of learning, pre-learning and assessments all happening in one learning space!

As we reach the end of the longest half term of the year, we all deserve a break. As previously notified, Friday 27th October is a school closure day so we will look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday 6th November.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

## Flourish Curriculum

We are now into the fourth year of our Flourish Curriculum.

The core activities for each year group have been launched.

- Year 7 will be continuing to work with Dr Binding on his connecting classrooms project where students consider their impact on the environment.
- Year 8 have started learning about emotional regulation which will help our students to recognise and acknowledge their own emotions.
- Year 9 will work with Ms Eglin, Careers Adviser to engage in discussions about their future options.
- Year 10 will use the time to develop their revision skills ready for their GCSE exams.

Alongside these core activities, students will take part in two activities of their own choice from a wide range of activities including our most popular sessions such as baking, bush-craft, crafts and photography. We have also included some new activities this year of girls' football, dog training and water-colour painting. The Flourish curriculum also offers an opportunity for the senior student leadership team to have regular meetings to plan school events and for Year 9 to start their D of E award.

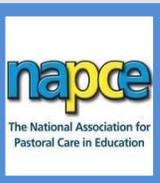
It has already been fantastic to see both staff and students enjoying their Flourish Curriculum.

Mrs Kay



### **Congratulations to Emily who has had success at her Triathlon Club.**

Emily received the club Youth Girls Championship trophy 🏆 at an end of season event on 14<sup>th</sup> October.



**Flourish News**



This week we presented our Flourish Curriculum as a case study for the Association for Pastoral Care at an online national conference. We shared how the curriculum has evolved over the last four years to include a wide variety of activities for our students. We discussed the feedback from students, staff and families including the positive impact on students' wellbeing, relationships between both peers and students and staff. We were able to share the positive responses received from external reviewers including OFSTED and how students have used their skills learnt during Flourish at home such as gardening and photography. Schools from across the country had the opportunity to ask questions about the organisation of the Flourish programme so they could consider how it might work in their own setting.

## Sports Leaders

Local Primary Schools were invited to attend a Basketball festival where they were led by our Year 9 leaders who planned their own sessions to involve a warm up, two drills and a mini game. The leaders were fantastic at delivering a fun session and were excellent role models to the Primary school students. Well done and thank you for representing your school. There will be more opportunities throughout the year.

Mrs Kay

Our NiddVenture students have been exemplifying one of our core values of kindness by making and delivering this fantastic 80th birthday cake for a member of our community. The member of staff who requested this kindness and the lucky lady who received the wonderful cake were both overwhelmed by the efforts of our young people, supported by Miss Tuffs.



## Hand in Hand project

Year 8 & 9 students have been engaging in additional PSHE lessons with the Children's Society through their Hand in Hand project.

[Click here](#) for more information on their website.

## Ripon Carers' Resource

Dates for parent carer meet up groups are

**27th October, 24th November and 15th December.**

All 10am to 12pm on a Friday and at Allhallowgate Methodist Church, Ripon.

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Anxiety, grief, low mood, isolation. . .

**If you want to talk we're Hear to Help**

Call (01423) 856 799

8am - 8pm, seven days a week

Available seven days a week to all across North Yorkshire.

Calls are charged at local rates. Visit <https://bit.ly/localcallcharges>.

Free, confidential support line for adults, young people and children.

We can also offer support for you - or your family and friends - around plans for end of life, including matters relating to bereavement and funerals.

North Yorkshire Hospice Care is a registered charity in England and Wales (118902) with a family of services operating as Harrogate Hospice, Harrogate, York St. John's Hospice and Felling Hospice. North Yorkshire Hospice Care is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (2131176). Registered address Cringle House, Harrogate Park Avenue, Harrogate, HG2 9BA.

## Expectations - Ready Respectful and Safe

Students have responded well to our slightly revised systems for ensuring ready, respectful and safe behaviour in school.

We have awarded 68606 positive points and 91% of all behaviour points issued are positive.

Please use the half term holiday to ensure all items of uniform and equipment have been purchased. Hoodies are not permitted in school and students should bring a proper coat to school for the colder weather. Most students are already complying with this expectation but a small number of students are still wearing a hoodie in school.

We have focused on behaviour choices on the buses this half term with a reminder that students are expected to be ready, respectful and safe passengers. The bus companies for the Ripon and Masham services have noted improved conduct. Thank you to parents for support with these important messages.

After half term there will be an additional focus on safe choices around vaping. Please look out for communication from Mr Cook regarding this matter.

## Pastoral Hub Decoration Competition

Well Done to our Creative Year 7s. Mrs Beard and Mrs Parkin set the Year 7 students the challenge of decorating the Pastoral Hub for Halloween, and they did not let us down.

We had some amazing entries, which made judging a winner very difficult. So much so we had to buy more prizes! Congratulations to Lola Ball for the amazing effort she put into her entries, Phoebe Adams, Beth Parsons and Keira Spence for their original creative entry using Hama beads, Freya Wyss for her very artistic drawing of a pumpkin, Ben Goss made an amazing and original paper chain & Dottie Pawson made a very artistic 3D pumpkin.

Well done to all the students that entered the competition.



## Join us for a family friendly Waxcap Wander

Come and find out about the incredible hidden jewels in our grasslands. Grassland fungi come in amazing colours and shapes and we need help to record these special fungi.

Location: Scar House Reservoir Car Park

Date & Time: 28th October, 10am to 12pm

Distance: Maximum 1.2 miles (2km). Some slopes and uneven ground as we explore the area adjacent to the car park and access road.

Toilets are available in the car park.

To book or for more details please email

[info@neyedc.co.uk](mailto:info@neyedc.co.uk)



## Grassland Fungi Identification

Would you like to improve your fungi ID skills?

Or maybe you have some botanical survey experience and would like to add grassland fungi ID to your skillset?

We will be running a free day course (10am to 3pm) with tuition from Steve Hindle

Date: 31st October 2023

Location: Scar House reservoir car park

Please bring warm outdoor clothes and a packed lunch. Some of the course will be held indoors if the weather is bad.

To book or for more details please email

[info@neyedc.co.uk](mailto:info@neyedc.co.uk)

