

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

Somehow it is December already and we have a really busy month ahead. This week many of our Year 11 students have been involved in full day mock exams for Art and Photography, combining this with the opportunity to make lots of progress with coursework. Our BTEC Creative Media students have completed another assessment to contribute towards their final grades. Next week all Year 11 students will be sitting their main mock exams for subjects mainly assessed with a written exam.

Last week, Mrs Carpenter's assembly was all about resilience and perseverance, with lots of great advice and strategies for all year groups but this was especially timely for Year 11. We are currently exploring more options for revision support packages and hope to be able to share more on this in the new year.

We continue to hear from a wide range of our teaching staff in weekly assemblies and this week, Mrs Clark relaunched our word of the week focus to help with expanding vocabulary.

We have seen a recent increase in the volume of students and parents wanting to access pastoral support. Thank you in anticipation of your patience as our small but highly effective team, triage and prioritise support needs and commit to providing the support needed by all.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

Cinema Trip

On Friday 17th November, I was delighted to be able to reward our keenest Year 7 readers with a trip to the cinema. Part of the annual Into Film Festival, 'Puss in Boots: The Last Wish' was screened at The Everyman in Harrogate. Year 7 students who had achieved their Bronze and/or Silver award in my Great Reading Race challenge were invited to attend.

As the school year progresses, I look forward to rewarding enthusiastic reading with more trips and events.

Miss Lester



This week's Words of the Week

Indifferent

If you have no particular interest in something- you can take it or leave it. If you don't have any feelings or concern for something or someone, you could be said to feel indifferent. **I was indifferent to his suffering.**

Indifferent can also be used to describe an object that is very ordinary or unremarkable- **There was a selection of indifferent cakes on offer.** Or **He produced a series of indifferent paintings for me to look at.**

Diligent/diligence

If someone is diligent, or shows diligence, they show a persistent effort to do a job well, or complete a task carefully. If you are diligent, you give a job the proper care and attention it needs, working steadily. You try really hard to do the best job you can- even when it's hard.

I was impressed by her diligence. **She worked diligently to get the best results in her exams.**

Strident

An unpleasant loud, harsh or grating sound. It can also be used to describe someone presenting their arguments or opinions in a very forceful aggressive way.

His strident voice could be heard down the corridor.

Her argument became increasingly strident.

The strident ringing of the bell outside Room 1 always set my nerves on edge.

Local Governing Board News

Following the recent election process for a new Parent Governor, we are pleased to confirm that Mr Ian Broadbent has been elected to serve as a Parent Governor on the Local Governing Board of Nidderdale High School.



Ex-student's Next Step

Well done to ex-student Ben.

Ben left on Sept 24th to serve a two year voluntary mission in Accra which is in Ghana West Africa. Currently he's the only British missionary out there with other young people from Africa, America and Australia.

He trained for 3 weeks in a Missionary Training Centre learning how to teach and how to adapt to the culture over there. He's serving the community in different humanitarian ways.

He had quite a bad stomach for the first few weeks as it took a while to get accustomed to the food and water. But he's fine now!



Bad Weather Arrangements

Please see the letter sent by School Comms regarding arrangements in place in the event of bad weather. You can also see the letter if you [Click here.](#)



FEAST is a programme run by North Yorkshire Council which is open to all children and young people in North Yorkshire, and is free to eligible families. They run free events during the school holidays, such as drama workshops, Christmas parties, music making sessions and seasonal adventure camps.

Young people and their families who may be interested in taking part in any of the events can find out more information from the FEAST website: <https://northyorkshiretogether.co.uk>

The website tells you lots more about FEAST, what activities are currently on offer and how some families can access fully funded places.

If you take part in any of the activities don't forget to let us know about it and tell us what you did and how much you enjoyed it!

Local Environmental Talk

Tom Mustill is a brilliant documentary film maker and writer who has worked with the likes of David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg, and last year published a fascinating book called "How To Speak Whale - the future of communication with animals". It was a New Yorker Best Book of 2022 and Winner of the Sigurd F. Olson Nature Writing Award.

Tom is also a fascinating and engaging individual who is at the forefront of all things environmental. Shortly after representing Whales at COP28 where he will have done a similar talk and selling out the same talk for 700 people at the British Library, Tom will now be coming to St Cuthbert's Church, Pateley Bridge to talk to 120 people on the 29th of December at 7pm. Tickets are available to purchase here. <https://www.wildishclub.co.uk/events-1/an-evening-with-writer-and-film-maker-tom-mustill>

Uniform Reminders

The school made a number of adjustments to uniform policy in recognition of cost of living pressures. Parents are reminded that only completely black trainers are permitted, leggings and jeggings are not permitted and hoodies should not be worn during the school day. If students choose to wear a black jumper in addition to their blazer, this needs to be a plain black v-neck style. Thank you for your support.

Decorating of Pateley bakery...

Miss Tufts reports Eve & Mia did a great job of this. They took real pride in doing it properly and were extremely polite, friendly and respectful to shop owners and the general public.

