



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

As we reach the end of a very long Autumn term, ready for a well deserved Christmas break, I would like to thank all Team Nidderdale staff for their incredible hard work. The support they give to students and each other every week and the opportunities they provide for our young people reminds me regularly what a real privilege it is to lead the school.

Thank you to staff and students for their resilience this term as we have faced several heating related technical challenges and the kitchen closure earlier this term.

This week in assemblies I have been reflecting with students on how the questions posed to me at interview (nearly 20 years ago!) 'What do you stand for? And what would you not be prepared to stand for?' have helped to shape our current school expectations of Ready, Respectful and Safe and the ethos and values of kindness, inclusion, honesty and ambition that underpin our work in school. In the new year we will be revisiting and refocusing some of our basic routines to support students to always be ready, respectful and safe. We will share more on this with parents in January.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Easton this week as she joins a new school with new opportunities and challenges in the new year. We will be welcoming Mrs Baird as our new teacher of Maths from January. We also look forward to welcoming Mrs McHale to the Learning Support Team and Mrs Parkin to Team Pastoral as a Senior Learning Mentor, supporting students in the Pastoral Hub.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

Concert at St Cuthbert's – 12 December 2022

Some of our talented musicians from Key Stage 4 performed at St Cuthbert's Church, including an organ recital from Archie Davies. Our Senior Students supported our musicians with some Christmas readings.

This small group of mostly solo performers produced a rich and varied programme for our enjoyment and certainly left the audience feeling uplifted and in the Christmas spirit.

Many thanks to Father Daryl for inviting us to use the church. Thank you to Mr Bibby and all of the performers for a wonderfully musical evening.

Christmas Jumper Day Tue 13th December

The Senior Team raised £320 for Epilepsy Action, their chosen charity.

Thank you for all contributions 😊

Christmas Lunch Thankyou

A huge thankyou to Mrs Naylor and team for the marvellous full Christmas lunch for all staff and students on Tuesday 13th December.



What To Do If.....

We understand that many situations can occur for students throughout the school day and it is important that they know who they can turn to and what the correct procedure is.

Advice on what to do during the school day if things are not going to plan or if you have a concern which you need to contact the school about, please see below to ensure your enquiry is directed to the relevant person and dealt with as swiftly as possible:

Who Should I Contact?

- Attendance: 01423 711246 or sophie.jaques@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk
- Cashless Catering: 01423 711246
- Careers, post 16 or work placement Mrs Eglin: 01423 714119
- Exams: Mrs Murgatroyd 01423 714109
- Lost property School office: 01423 711246
- Pastoral issues - Form teachers or Pastoral Team: 01423 711246
- Subject specific enquiries including homework - Subject teacher or Director of Learning email: admin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk marked FAO teacher's name
- School Trips: 01423 711246
- Transport - School Finance & Operations Manager: 01423 714113
- Urgent messages for students : 01423 711246

Senior Student News

The Team have been busy this week. As well as supporting the Christmas Concert at the beginning of the week with Christmas readings and reflections, they have also taken part in discussion with Chloe Thwaites, Youth Voice and Creative Engagement Officer for NYCC around LGBTQ+ issues. Chloe's feedback to Mrs Ashton about our students was incredibly positive. 'I just wanted to say how uplifting it was to speak with your group of students. They were so eloquent, thoughtful and respectful with each other and had some fantastic ideas.'

NiddVenture Rewards and NiddVenture Kindness

Wednesday saw another group of students coming together to enjoy a NiddVenture Outdoor challenge as a result of their excellent Classcharts positive record. Miss Tuff reports, 'It is so nice to see students from a variety of year groups working so well together and enjoying the outdoors & the wintery conditions!' On Tuesday some of our regular NiddVenture students were planning routes, buying ingredients and making delicious Christmas tiffin for delivery to members of the community. On Wednesday Miss Tuffs and Oliver cycled the length and breadth of Pateley Bridge to bring some Christmas cheer to elderly residents who always welcome a friendly visit from our NiddVenture team.

Calendar reminders

- 3 Jan 23 – **Staff Training Day**
- **4 Jan 23 – All students return to school**
- 4 Jan 23 – Flu vaccination Years 7/8/9
- 12 Jan 23 – Y9 Curriculum Evening in school
- 26 Jan 23 – Y9 Parents' Evening (online)
- 2 Feb 23 – Y8 Parents' Evening (online)
- 13-17 Feb 23 – Half term

Uniform

Please see message below from Rawcliffes and ensure all students meet uniform expectation from January 4th as outlined in recent letter to all parents.

Good afternoon, a quick message to wish all the children and staff at Nidderdale a wonderful festive season and all the best in the new year 🎄 from all the staff at Rawcliffes Harrogate.

Our opening times over the holidays are as follows:

Wednesday 14th December until Wednesday 28th December – **Closed**

Thursday 29th December – 9am/4pm

Friday 30th December – 9am/4pm

Saturday 31st December until Monday 2nd January – **Closed**

The store will reopen as normal from Tuesday 3rd January



Visit to France and Belgium – week of 5th December 2022

Our Year 9 students had the opportunity to practice their French language skills and learn more about the First and Second World Wars in the Humanities AoL trip to France and Belgium.

Students were able to take part in a varied programme of visits to important Battlefield sites, take part in the Menin Gate Last Post service and get involved in a range of language building activities with trips to a boulangerie and French supermarket as well as a visit to a Christmas Market.

Our students were complimented on their respectful and kind behaviour everywhere they went and the staff team were extremely proud to have these young people represent our school so well.

This is the first residential trip we have run outside of the UK since the covid pandemic and we were delighted to be able to offer this valuable opportunity to so many of our Year 9 students.

We know that friendships will have been cemented and lasting memories made on this really important trip.

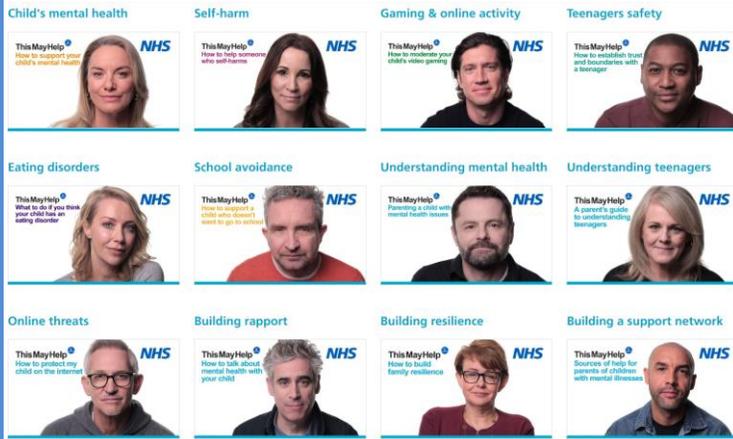
Thank you to Mr Pancott, Mrs Witherwick, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Overend and Mr Couldwell for such a successful trip (and to Mrs Jaques our Education Visits Coordinator who does so much to make sure these trips can happen).





York Christmas Market visit 15 December

To recognise the hardwork of our Year 11 students in their mocks, they were treated to a day exploring the York Christmas Markets. Thank you to the former PTFA for funding the coach transport.



'This may help'

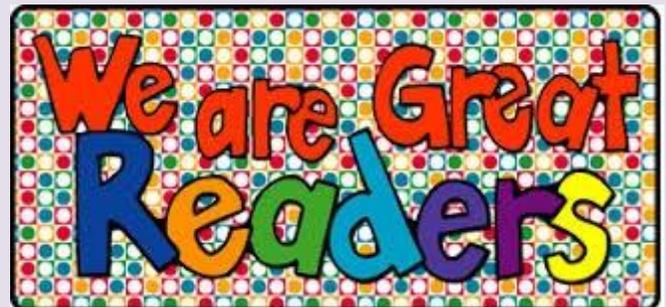
Being the parent of a teenager can be tough at times, particularly when it comes to mental health.

The mental health advice in these films is practical and may help to improve the situation you may be in.

'This May Help' is an initiative sponsored by [Healthy Minds](#) (run by [Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership](#)). The films were developed by parents, carers and service users who got together to share their own experiences. They spoke to experts by experience, service and ex-service users, community mental health nurses, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) doctors and qualified professionals to work out the best and most helpful practical advice possible.

What helped others may also help you. Click on the link to access the advice:

<https://thismayhelp.me/all-advice-films/>



Reading Reward

I was delighted to be able to reward our keenest Year 7 readers with a trip to the cinema. Year 7 students who had achieved their Bronze award in my Great Reading Race challenge were invited to attend.

Part of the annual Into Film Festival, 'The Railway Children Return' was screened at The Everyman in Harrogate on Friday 18th November.

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

Miss Lester

Reporting Student Absence from January 2023

By 9 a.m. on the morning of absence, please ring the School Absence Line 01423 711246 or email the Attendance Officer

sophie.jaques@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk



Art and Nature Workshop with JOT

Last week we were delighted to welcome local artist and former student, James Owen Thomas to work with some of our Key Stage 4 students on an art in nature workshop. Students had the opportunity to create their own art work inspired by James' eco friendly / sustainable art techniques.

The workshop was supported by the British Tree Council and students were also asked to provide voice recordings for an exhibition at Birmingham Botanical Gardens in Spring 2023. Their messages about the future of our planet and the importance of conservation were moving and powerful.

The school has been invited to apply for the Young Tree Champion programme, which we will look forward to doing in the new year.