



Skipton Castle Educational Visit

Year 7 ventured to Skipton Castle on Monday 16th January on a Humanities Area of Learning trip, 933 years after the original castle was built. From the dungeon, ramparts, other defences and the banqueting hall and kitchen, students were given loads of detail to life in a castle throughout its nearly 1000 years of history.

Students were guided around the various aspects of the castle, the information given to them complemented their History curriculum. This proved to be an opportunity to apply the facts and concepts from the History classroom directly to an actual historical site. Guides described both the layout and metamorphosis through history of the building, but also spoke of those who have lived there throughout the years.

Engagement was exemplary and it was especially pleasing to hear our young people asking probing and intuitive questions, much like all staff hear within their lessons, but now 'on tour'.

Following a lunch break, and not content with just an historical enquiry, our students then investigated the levels of congestion in Skipton through a traffic survey from different directions. This was then compared to their early experiences at school, measuring congestion in Pateley Bridge, during their Geography lessons. Year 7 continuing to impress with their application of geographical skills and application of previous learning in a different environment.

Mr Connors

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been a very busy couple of weeks with lots of high quality curriculum delivery in the classroom and curriculum enhancement beyond the classroom as detailed in the pages that follow. In addition to this, all of Year 7 have had the opportunity to see a high quality theatre production this week, watching a musical version of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at Leeds Playhouse.

As you will know, last week we welcomed Ofsted into school on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was an excellent opportunity to showcase the many strengths of the school in all aspects of our work. We look forward to sharing the report with you in due course. In the meantime, I would like to thank parents and carers who sent messages of support and good wishes directly to school as well as all those parents who completed the ParentView survey and left such positive and kind comments.

As you will be aware, the NEU are planning a national day of strike action on Wednesday 1st February. This will inevitably have some impact on school and all parents / carers will receive a letter outlining the plans school has put in place to minimise disruption.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



PE personal development update

It is a busy term of fixtures! Well done to the year 7 girls who participated in the Harrogate and Craven 5 aside tournament. It was an excellent experience and it was capped by player of the tournament being awarded to Eliza who was sensational in goal. This was the first time we've entered a girls' team in the competition and we look forward to the 7 aside tournament coming soon. Girls only football club takes place every Wednesday at lunchtimes in the sports hall.

Our year 7 boys were defeated by St Aidan's in the area cup football on Monday. The boys improved throughout the game and left with their heads held high fully focused on training to become even better game players!

Year 9 and year 8 boys will travel to St John Fisher School for their area cup quarter final ties this term. Due to enthusiasm for basketball, year 8 are playing in the Harrogate and Craven basketball tournament.

Year 8, 9 and 10 are participating in the North Yorkshire handball play offs in February. Year 11 GCSE PE students are also due to play an assessment friendly game against St Aidan's on the same day.

Finally, our year 9 rugby players are due to play a game against Rossett in March. Reminder that rugby club takes place after school every Wednesday.

The second round of house competitions are due to take place in the penultimate and last week of term. Please check class charts announcements for updates.

Mr Barrass

Nidderlicious

Hot meal deals @ £2.95 w/c 30th January 2023

Monday: Meatballs in tomato sauce and noodles/Apple crumble

Tuesday: Turkey and Ham Pie and Vegetables/Treacle Sponge and Custard

Wednesday: Sticky Chicken and Noodles/Traybake

Thursday: Homemade Pizza or Crispy Southern Fried Chicken / Muffin

Friday: Chicken and Sweet Potato Curry and Rice / Ice cream

The full menu is always available on the school website.

Design Technology

I would like to thank all of DT GCSE Year 11 for working so hard towards their exams and towards their personal project deadlines.

On Wednesday, they all worked so hard in our all day making session. No mean feat 5 straight hours in a very busy DT room. All complete with fortitude, kindness towards each other and mutual support. Brilliant!

Many Thanks to all our colleagues for their support and Ms Jordan, Mrs Witherwick and Mrs Ashton for enabling our 'big make day'.

We have some amazing projects happening in the DT department, which we cannot wait to share with the school once complete.

We are looking forward to seeing them all too, so exciting!

Miss Goddard

New skills

This week at Corn Close saw our students gaining new skills. The previous week a bailer was taken apart and cleaned in preparation for sale. This week it was rebuilt.

Mrs Eglin



After School Club

Fantastic to see so many enthusiastic runners from so many different year groups attending After-School Running Club. The light nights are returning and this week we spent a very enjoyable session relay racing around Fishpond Wood. Thank you all for your commitment, respect & kindness towards each other. Many thanks to Mrs Warner for her continued help with running this club, and also Dr Lawson who has joined us as a volunteer. Dr Lawson has recently founded the Nidderdale Fell & Trail Running Club and our hope is that in the long term we can develop a link between the club & the school. Exciting times!!

Miss Tuffs



Food and Nutrition

Some images of the really great food work completed by year 10 and 11 students this week.

Mrs Buckland



Calendar reminders

- 2 Feb 23 – Y8 Parents' Evening (online)
- 8 & 9 Feb 23 – Y11 Trip to An Inspector Calls, York
- 9 & 10 Feb 23 – Y11 Trip to London
- 13-17 Feb 23 – Half term
- 20 Feb – School re-opens to all year groups

Uniform

A message from Smart Start Uniform suppliers, Ripon:

Skirts with an embroidered logo are now half price. Details on their website.

<https://www.smartstartonline.co.uk/>

