



# TERM 2 PARENT/CARER NEWSLETTER

January 2023 – February 2023

Term 2 - Arts

## Update from the Principal

Welcome to this half term's newsletter.

I am delighted to say that students have continued to engage well with their learning and enrichment activities.

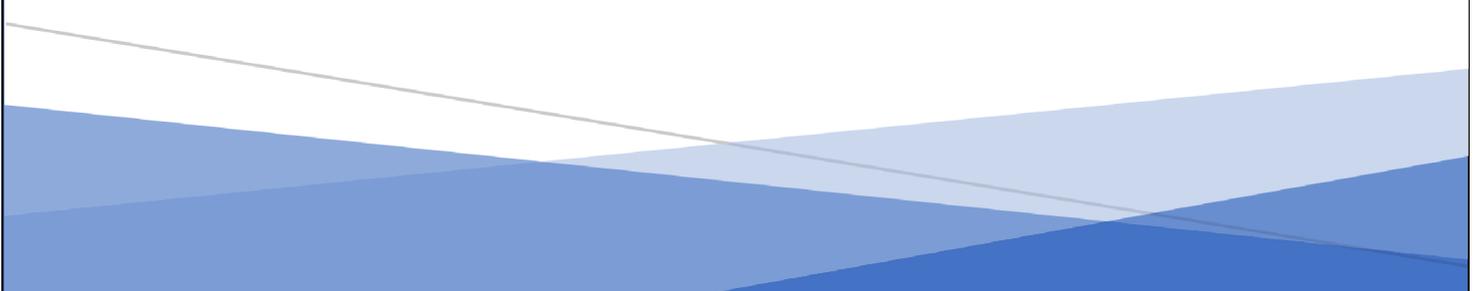
Our student leaders and school councils were excellent ambassadors representing the school during the Lord Mayor visit on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term break.

Mrs Hobbs  
Acting Principal



**RELAX**



# Year Group Messages

## Message for Year 7

Happy New Year Year 7!

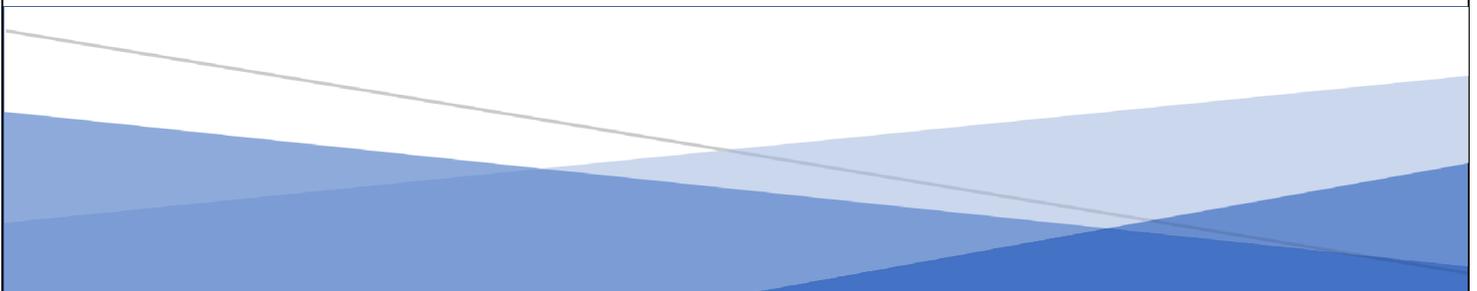
Our focus for this term has been "Putting first things first". Year 7 have been striving to make their education a priority. For some this will be doing their homework before they go out to play, for others it will be preparing their uniform and equipment the night before. Although GCSEs may feel like they are a very long way away, the time will fly and starting their secondary school career in the right way will help ensure success and the achieving of those all important grades in Year 11.

As I reflect on the first half term of 2023 I am brimming with pride at the excellent work Year 7 are producing, the friendships they are forging and the wonderful displays of our core values I see around school daily. Although there is always room for improvement I am keen to recognise the effort and care that students have for their education. My wish for every student is that they can look back at this half term and say "I did my very best".

Next half term will see us embark on an adventure in the form of the Outward Bound trip, enjoy the rewards for all our good choices and hard work in the Silver Reward event and, of course, continue to expand our knowledge with the help of our fantastic teachers.

So let us take half term to refresh, recharge and reset ready for another half term of giving our all in pursuit of compassion, integrity, honesty and excellence.

Miss Brassington  
Head of Year 7



## Message for Year 8

Dear Year 8,

I would just like to say a big well done to everyone for the way you have applied yourself since returning to school in the new year. In my last message I spoke about how we become more resilient as we continue to grow into young adults. As your Head of Year it fills me with great pride to see each and everyone of you demonstrate your maturity, resilience and confidence so far this school year.

As we approach the halfway point of the academic year, we must continue to strive for excellence in all that we do. Integrity is about doing the right thing all of the time and I strongly believe, as a year group we do this without thinking or questioning our approach to school life. Not only that but how can we be more compassionate, to our peers, our teachers, our families and to the wider community. I strongly believe that self reflection and being honest with ourselves is a value that we should all believe in and follow.

When reflecting over half term, I would like you to consider the following;

Do I always do the right thing?

Am I respectful to my peers and teachers?

Do I always make the right choices?

Please use this week to spend quality time with your family and friends and take a little time for self reflection. Keep up the great work and have a fantastic half term.

Well done

Mr Kaine  
Head of Year 8

## Message for Year 9

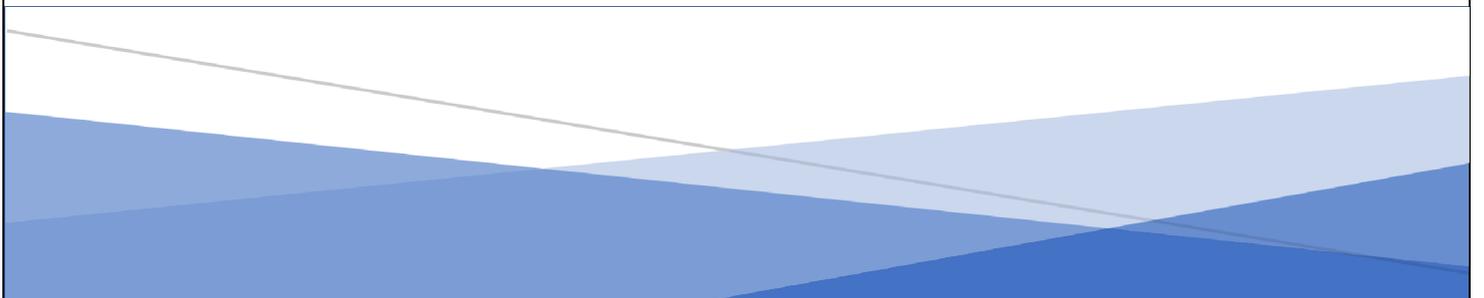
Year 9,

Well done for completing the first half term of the new year successfully and making such a great start to the Spring term.

We had excellent attendance to our Year 9 Parents' and options evening, Teachers were able to share valuable information and answer questions that would help you and your parents make your choices for the options you take in year 10. Thank you for taking the time to attend such an important evening.

The Commando Joe program has been going very well. All students are displaying an excellent attitude towards engaging in the activities. There have already been improvements seen in student's resilience, listening skills, communicating ideas and working together as a team. As a year group we have made leaps in improving our behaviour, attendance and attitude towards learning. I know this will continue you we will maintain the high standards set in place as we push toward individually achieving our targets as we aim for the silver award.

Miss Klu  
Head of Year 9



## Message for Year 10

Year 10,

I hope the new year has been treating you well so far. In my last address to you I said that our journey to GCSEs was in full swing. I also said that like all good journeys they take many different paths before reaching our final destination. Completing the first half term of the new calendar year is a milestone that has been completed successfully.

Parents' evening was a roaring success with many of your parents sharing the good news stories, areas of growth for us and exactly how we reach our final destination without hitting too many bumps in the road. Thank you for attending such an important evening.

I must ask for commitment, dedication and perseverance as we continue on our journey. Our standards must remain high and we must strive for excellence in everything that we do. Being honest with ourselves is also important. Are we pushing ourselves as hard as we can do? Do I need to change my attitude towards learning? and what must I do to achieve my full potential?

Compassion and Integrity go hand in hand and we must remember that we are a 'family' and just like your own family we look out for one another. Doing the right thing all of the time may feel thankless but doing the right thing even when nobody's looking demonstrates the utmost integrity and your own personal values.

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." — *Pele, Brazilian soccer player*

Mr Stokes  
Head of Year 10

## Message for Year 11

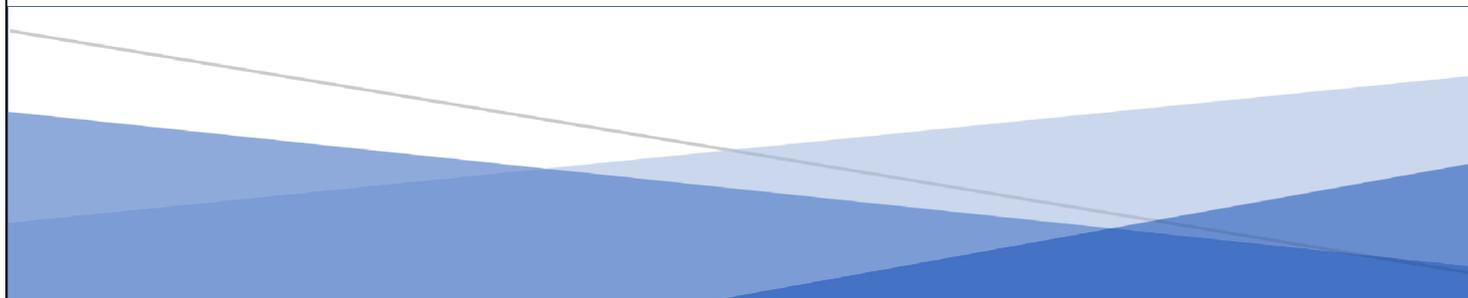
Year 11 students have started Half Term 3 by putting **first things first**. Year 11 have returned to school refreshed and ready to work hard with the end in mind.

We have had Sixth Form and Colleges from around Bradford coming into school to meet our students and to promote their post 16 pathways. Many of you have already applied, attended interviews and been given conditional offers and provides a focus for the work ahead.

With another series of mocks ahead of us after the February half term, Year 11 have recently spent a day with 'Resilient Me'. The workshop gave our students new techniques on how to revise and gained the knowledge to make them less stressed, more confident and better able to cope with examination and social pressure!

Well done Year 11, keep it up the hard work and you will reap the rewards!

Mr Brennan  
Head of Year 11 & Attendance Manager



## Looking back over Spring Term 3

### Student Leadership

The Student Council team were invited to a special lunch with Mrs Hobbs to celebrate their hard work and achievements from Term one. Students selected their own lunch and dined at their own private 'VIP' table set up in the canteen. A second round of Student Elections were held at the end of Term 1 to select the new Student Council for this current term.

Our Yr 11 student leadership team expressed their want to 'make a difference' and 'drive change' before they leave us in the summer. They are working on two initiatives; 'Going Green', this initiative is to raise the profile of recycling at school based around reducing plastic and paper waste. The second initiative to make a difference within our community was supporting a local food bank. Both initiatives will be launched in half term 4.

### Values Champion

Values Champions were awarded for October - December. Students are wearing their badges with pride and enjoying the use of the 'queue jumping' in the canteen.

### Enrichment

This term's enrichment timetable has included: Reading and Homework club, Food Life Skills, Art club, Jiu-Jitsu, Mindfulness, British Sign Language, Archery, First Aid, Basketball and Girls football.

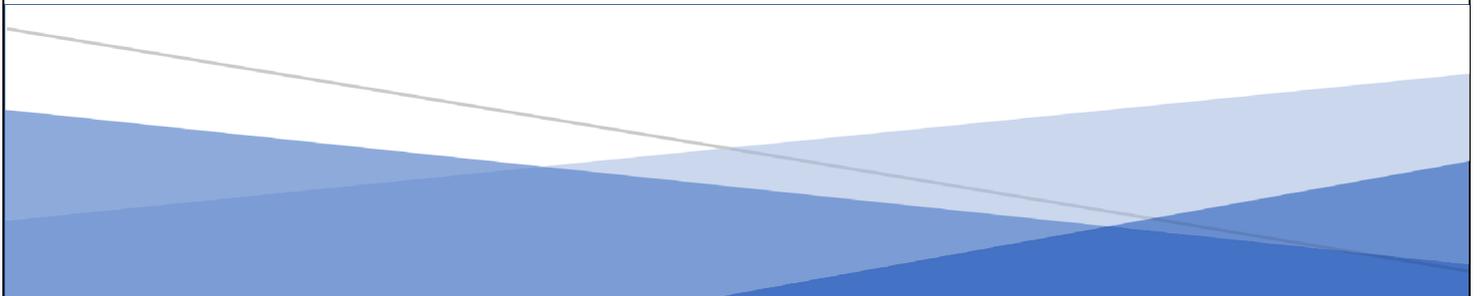
### House System

Students have been involved in a number of house competitions including; dodgeball, table tennis, Fifa and an art and design competition.

### Careers

Students have continued to have been involved in a number of Career based activities:

- Yr 11 have careers appointments with a Shine Careers advisor. They have also had support with next step destinations, applications, interview prep/tips and personal statements/CVs writing. Y11 students have also been involved with informative assemblies from Bradford New College, Bradford College and Dixons Sixth Form.
- Yr 9 and 10 - Students have completed a survey detailing the sectors they are most interested in working to support future planning.
- Yr 8 Participated in a Words for Work workshop which aims to equip students with communication skills for the world of work (supported by Provident Financial Group and National Literacy Trust).



## Woodhouse Grove

One In A Million Free School are now into their sixth year of their partnership with Woodhouse Grove, who award two full Sixth Form bursary places per annum to promising One In A Million Free School Year 11 students.

15 students were nominated by staff to attend an assembly hosted by Woodhouse Grove and past One In A Million Free School students who were successful in achieving a bursary.

We look forward to receiving applications in the upcoming weeks as we continue to widen educational opportunities to our students in the local area.

The deadline for applications is Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

## Lord Mayor Visit

The Head Boy & Girl welcomed the Lord Mayor to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

They escorted him on a tour of the school and along with our other Year 11 leaders and the student council discussed their views about school, living in Bradford and the challenges of climate change.

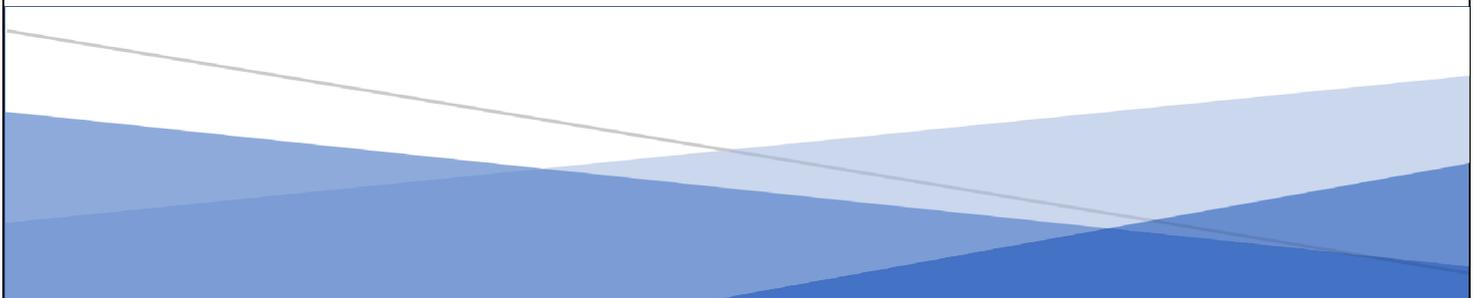
## Attendance Matters

Attending school on a regular basis is the key to students achieving or exceeding their potential. It sets students good routines for life and the working world. Being in school provides opportunities to socialise and feel included, learn new things, develop skills, increase confidence and self-esteem.

Students who have excellent attendance are eligible to take part in rewards events, attendance celebrations and prize draws throughout the academic year.

Attendance of 90% sounds positive but is equivalent of 19 days absent per year, and missing just 19 days of school per year (attendance of 90%) equals one GCSE grade dropped on average.

At One In A Million Free School, we expect students to achieve at least 97% attendance. We thank Parents/Carers who encourage their children to attend school every day.



## E-Safety

At One In A Million Free School, we appreciate that E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe. We have security measures in place in school, which are constantly monitored, to help safeguard students from any potential dangers. E- Safety is taught to all students explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. However, One In A Million Free School can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work

with you as parent/carers to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online.

Actions which you may wish to take to help safeguard your children online include:

- Install parental control software which allows you to limit sensitive information you don't want your child sharing (e.g., name, age, phone number).
- Make sure your browser is set to take advantage of built-in security and safety features - Look under "Tools," then "Internet Options."
- Turn on all the filtering and security features in your computer's search engine
- Set high security and privacy settings with browsers, memberships, and social networking sites.
- Install and maintain Internet security software on all devices.
- Always read app/site ratings before allowing your children to visit/download.
- Check your browser's history to see which sites your children are visiting and how often.
- Limit younger children's online chatting, even within the friendly interface of a favourite game or club site. As they get older, introduce the concept of chatting with people they know.
- Make sure the computer or device your child uses is within your view, in a public space like the kitchen or family room.
- Teach your children to tell a parent, teacher, or trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable about anything they've seen online.
- Always reinforce that your child needs to ask your permission before talking to anyone new online.
- Ask your child not to download files (e.g., music, games, screensavers, ring tones), make online purchases, or install software or apps without your permission.
- Talk about protecting private information and never sharing passwords with friends.

## Options

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the Year 9 options evening.

Students have handed their forms in and will find out which options they have been given during the summer term.



# Uniform

All our students in Year 7 to 11 are expected to wear the approved school uniform.

A high standard of work and behaviour is expected from all our students and we believe these are helped by also having high standards of appearance.

All items of school uniform are worn conventionally and we expect parents/carers to support our reasonable requirements. We operate uniform checks each morning to ensure our students uphold our high standards with regard to the dress code and to check on essential items for a successful school day. If the correct uniform isn't being worn, students will be asked to change into school owned alternatives or they may be sent home to change.

Non uniform coats, hoodies or footwear should be removed before students enter the building and stored in their locker.

## BOYS - Examples of appropriate trousers and footwear

Plain black unbranded

Plain black slim belt is allowed



**Shoes** - Plain black leather or leather-look school shoes with no logos or brand names.



**GIRLS -**  
Examples of appropriate trousers and footwear



Tailored black fitted trousers



**Shoes** - Plain black leather or leather-look school shoes with no logos or brand names.



## Safeguarding and Support

As a safeguarding team we aim to provide a safe environment for our students to learn in. We want to make sure that our students remain safe, at home as well as within school. If you need to talk, we are here to listen. If you are worried about something you can talk to a member of staff in school.

Our safeguarding team are:

Miss Woodcock – Safeguarding Lead  
Mr Gallagher – Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs Hobbs – Safeguarding Deputy

Numbers to contact if required during the holidays:

Childline: 0800 1111  
First Response: 0800 952 1181  
Mind In Bradford: 0800 1884 884

## Useful Info

### British Gas

British gas is now providing grants for people who need help with their energy bills, even non customers. Fuel voucher codes are also available if people can't afford to top up their metre.

**Telephone 0121 348 7797**

<https://britishgasenergytrust.org.uk/>

### Assisted Purchase Scheme

The Assisted Purchase Scheme is a low cost solution for people to buy essential items such as beds, electric cookers, fridge freezers, sofas, microwaves and washing machines.

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/assisted-purchase-scheme/>

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	Residential Information Evening
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 11 Geography Trip to York
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	World Book Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Year 7 Residential Trip
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Careers Carousel

