

Happy New Year to all our students, parents, staff and supporters in the community! As usual, Christmas seemed to fly by in a flash, and here we are - already into January 2020.

I hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable Christmas and that families managed to find some precious time together over this period.

This week's issue will be fairly brief with a few key reminders of events and issues, some of which were flagged up before Christmas but are worthy of another mention...

### **Form-Time Focus: Diversity**

Parents will already be aware that each half term we have a different focus which links with important PSHE topics and our assembly themes. This half term we are focusing on Diversity and the importance of respect, tolerance and understanding of each other's differences. I believe that it is more important than ever to prepare students for a wider world where they must understand that some of our differences are things we have little control over such as skin colour, ethnic origin and so on, whereas other areas are more closely linked to personal choice such as faith and sexual identity. We teach them of the importance of developing informed opinions and encourage them to discuss and question areas they are unsure about, while articulating their thoughts carefully and respectfully.

### **Yr 11 Revision Classes and Interventions**

This programme of 'extra' tuition is now fully operational and we ask parents to encourage Yr 11 students to take full advantage of the additional help that is available to them over the coming weeks. Following the results of the recent PPEs, Mr Gill delivered an assembly to Yr 11 this week, highlighting that if they do not do something different over the next 12 weeks...they can expect exactly the same grades or worse in their final exams. He reminded them that if they are unhappy with their performance or the reports that were issued before Christmas – there is still time to have a massive positive impact – but this requires real commitment. Most schools will offer some sort of extra revision programme, (often in the final couple of weeks around Easter), but I have never worked anywhere that offers such a comprehensive offering from across the range of subjects, and I have never seen so many staff who are giving up their free time for weeks and weeks before the exams begin. It is now up to the Yr 11s to really step up and take full control of their revision schedule – plenty of help is available. Please see the attached timetable of extra classes available.

### **Equipment**

Following the notice before Christmas, this is a reminder that Form Tutors are doing checks several times a week to ensure that students are fully prepared for learning, and detentions will be issued where this is not the case. This is something that we had a big push on earlier in the year and we saw a really positive impact in terms of less disruption at the start of lessons, and a more positive attitude from learners who had previously fallen into a cycle of poor learning habits. We have published the list before and I have included it again here for reference. Students/Parents can purchase missing items from the Print Room: a fully equipped pencil case (except for the calculator) costs £2.50, or a refill pack (pens and pencils,) costs £1. The best way to do this is via Parentpay, but students can bring in cash if this is easier.

Thank you for your support with this issue.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sensible school bag, large enough for several exercise books</li><li>• Pencil Case</li><li>• Black pen and spare pen</li><li>• Scientific calculator</li><li>• Ruler</li><li>• Eraser</li><li>• Protractor</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compass</li><li>• Pencil</li><li>• Green pen</li><li>• Highlighter</li><li>• Glue stick</li><li>• Locker Key</li><li>• <b>Reading Book (now for both KS3 and KS4 on a Monday in form-time)</b></li></ul>
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## **Co-Op Fund**

The pot of money for BHS Creative workshops via the Co Op Fund is growing steadily – we currently have over £350! Many thanks to all the support from Co Op customers who are donating to our charity. Miss Allsop is thrilled and is looking forward to next year when she can organise creative workshops within the community for all to partake in.

## **Rewards System**

Mr Gill, Miss Bradbury and Miss Temple are currently working with students to review our procedures around rewards. Schools focus so much on behaviour (*see below!*) that it can be a real challenge to remember that most students are quietly and conscientiously getting on with doing the right things all day, every day. We want to make sure that these students are recognised and given the profile they deserve. We hope to develop some new ideas that we can trial later this year, and which will then inform some permanent changes from September 2020.

## **Behaviour**

I have reviewed the behaviour data from last half-term. As ever, most students are responding sensibly and doing a great job of personifying our core values of courage, commitment and compassion. However, it is clear that some students are not currently fully committed to their learning, and are not valuing their education. One key issue we have is in Year 9 where a group of boys are disrupting some lessons and lunchtimes through repeated low-level disruption. This will not be allowed to continue as we go through the new term. Some parents will be invited in for a meeting to work with school on a plan around these targeted individuals. As always, we will support students in trying to make improvements, but ultimately I will also be asking parents for their unwavering support in this. Exclusions are always a last resort, but I have informed Governors that if we do not see an immediate and sustained response to the support on offer, I will resort to excluding students for persistent disruptive behaviour. It is my hope that the students in question will respond to some of the initiatives we are launching this term, and to the joint support from school and parents, so that we can see them start to value their education and take advantage of the provision we have in place.

## **Upcoming Events (*Some of these have been flagged up previously*)**

- **Yr 9 Parent Evening:** 4pm-7pm Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January (See attached letter, given to students this week)
- **Coast to Coast Cycling Challenge:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May  
Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered as leaders. We are looking for lots of students to take part and fundraise this year for a local charity: Candle lighters (supporting children and their families in Yorkshire with cancer). We are looking for all ages and abilities to be involved in this community event.  
(Click on link here for details previously provided):  
<https://bedalehighschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/C2C-Letter2020-ride-16.12.19.pdf>
- **Year 9 Geography Fieldtrip to Flamborough Head and Bridlington:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020.  
Please see the attached letter.