

Dear Parents

There are a number of things to update you on this week, but please pay particular attention to the first item about the UCI Cycling event next week...

ALL YEAR GROUPS: Road Closures for UCI Cycling Event – Weds 25th September

All students were issued with a letter yesterday explaining the impact of the road closures around Bedale next Wednesday. The closures will affect buses, cars and taxis at the end of the school day. School is open as normal and arrangements are in place to supervise children until buses get through at approx. 3.45pm. After school, bus 73 (to Northallerton) will not operate until 4pm; the Masham bus (802) will leave at approximately 4.15pm and we expect the other school buses to be leaving at approximately 3.45pm. Parents who pick up students by car will not be able to get through to school before 3.45pm at the earliest.

If your child gets a school bus, the public bus, or needs to wait for you to come and collect them by car, we will make arrangements to supervise students in school until the usual transport is here. But if you have alternative arrangements in place, or if you would prefer to allow your child to leave at the normal time without supervision, please email admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk or phone on 01677 422419 to let us know. **Please be aware that if we do not hear back from parents of these students, they will need to remain in school until the transport is here so that we can ensure their safety and account for their whereabouts.**

I appreciate that this will cause some inconvenience and result in children arriving home a little later than normal, but given the alternative arrangements that are in place, there is absolutely no need to keep your child at home on this day – lessons will run as normal.

GIRLS' SKIRTS

Parents will know that we have put a lot of time into establishing a strong sense of pride in our new uniform, and I am very conscious of the support that you have shown to us over this issue, both in terms of helping us build the right ethos and through the fact that uniform can be a costly business for parents. I am now asking for support with one particular aspect - girls' skirts. The vast majority of our girls wear them correctly and at a decent length. However, there are small groups, mainly within years 9-11, who roll up skirts at the waist, or tie knots in the waist band, and wear them very short. I will be speaking to the student leaders about this issue and seeing how we can tackle it in a positive way. As role models, they should have a key part to play in this. For me, it is not simply an issue of uniform discipline, but there may be more important underlying issues that we need to address such as body image and self-worth. For your part, I would be really grateful if parents could also have this discussion about why it is not appropriate to be wear the skirts so short, and the resulting problems that can arise from these situations. I'm confident that if we tackle it together positively from an educational point of view, then we should soon start to see an improvement which will benefit all concerned.

OPEN EVENING – 3rd OCTOBER

This year we are inviting parents of students in both Year 5 and Year 6 to come to our Open Evening. It is a fantastic opportunity to get a feel for the school, students and staff.

Following a brief introduction from me, families can tour the school and engage with fun, interactive activities across our subject areas. Please pass the date on to any parents of younger children who may be interested and we look forward to a fun-filled, action-packed event!

ALL YEAR GROUPS: EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

This is now up and running. While the weather has been lovely in recent days, we know that this will turn sooner or later. Please encourage your children to try some of the wide range of activities that are on offer at lunchtimes and after-school. It is a great way of making new friends with similar interests, and also gives them the opportunity for further personal development beyond the classroom. I am delighted that our staff are giving up so much of their time to offer these activities – it really is a comprehensive offering for such a small school. Please see the attached document for details.

PE FIXTURES - ALL STUDENTS

Please find attached the PE Dept. sports fixtures for this academic year. It is as comprehensive as we can make it at the minute. Obviously there will be fixtures added due to cup games played etc and unfortunately we have cancellations at times which are out of our control. The document can also be accessed via the school website.

Mr Bielby writes:

The Y9 and Y10s had their first football fixture of the season this week. Unfortunately both teams lost in what were very competitive matches versus Risedale. The Y9s lost 5-2 in the first round of the area cup with goals from Alistair Banks and Theo Barry respectively. Josh Goulden received the man of the match award from his peers. The Y10s lost their friendly 3-1 with debutant Will McWhinney picking up the man of the match with a great performance in the heart of our defence. Both teams play again on Monday versus Thirsk.

Rugby Training:

We had a great turnout for the first Rugby session led by Rob from the RFU last Monday. 24 boys ranging from Y7 through to Y11 turned up and it was encouraging to see some new faces getting involved. We are really fortunate to have secured this support from the RFU this year so please do encourage your children to take advantage of it – even if it's just to try it for the first time to see if they will enjoy it.

SEND CAREERS/EMPLOYMENT EVENT

Please see the attached poster for details of these events where you can access a variety of providers to explore further education and training options.

GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS

Mrs Childe is available on Thursdays 3.30 - 4.30 for GCSE D&T classes if students feel they want some extra support or help in completing work. Please encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity.

GCSE REVISION GUIDES

Citizenship

Mr Childe writes: A revision guide for GCSE Citizenship has now been published. These are available to purchase on Amazon through the link below and will prove to be a very useful tool for students:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Pearson-Edexcel-Citizenship-RevisionWorkbook/dp/1292268166/ref=sr_1_2?keywords=gcse+citizenship+guide&qid=1568717829&s=gateway&sr=8-2

Design & Technology

The cost of the revision guide is £2.85. There is also an exam practice work book available that contains GCSE style questions for each section within the revision guide. This also costs £2.85.

If you would like to purchase the revision guide or both the revision guide and work book from school, please pay the correct amount on ParentPay before the 1.10.19. Once the books come into school I will distribute to the students.

Science

Please see attached letter as this outlines which revision guides are best for each group.

Revision guides for other subjects are also available – see Parentpay for those that are relevant to your child.

ANTHONY NOLAN TRUST

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the request for support for this cancer charity. We have now learned that 61 people turned up to the event at Bedale Primary school with a further 10 signing up online. I wrote about this a couple of weeks ago and if you are interested in finding out more information please follow the link below:

<https://www.anthonynolan.org/>