

Well done everyone, - we finally made it! This will be a fairly brief newsletter to mark the end of term, and to let you know of some key upcoming events. But let me also take this opportunity to say a huge thank-you to all our students, parents, friends in the community, governors and staff in school for the endless efforts in supporting the school over this first term. There have been some great accomplishments to celebrate from students and some fantastic events that they have participated in; we can look back on the term with a genuine sense of pride, while not losing sight of the areas we continue to strive for improvement in.

### **The Christmas Showcase**

What a lovely event this was. I spoke to parents at the end to thank them for their support, but also to acknowledge that we take a really inclusive approach to events like this. We have a number of 'born performers' who are completely at home on stage, and thrive under the spotlight. They were so impressive. But on Wednesday night we also saw a number of newcomers, and a number of students who don't necessarily have that natural confidence in their own ability. Many of these overcame their own fears and doubts and performed admirably in front of a large audience. I was incredibly proud of all the students involved and we saw a real range of acts including musical solos, band performances, dancing and acting. My thanks also go to Miss Cropper, Mr Parnell and Miss Allsop who worked with students to prepare and support them in the lead up to this event. Please keep an eye on Facebook for photos.

### **Coast To Coast Cycling Challenge 2020**

Many parents will be aware that we have run the Coast to Coast cycling event in the past, and had a fabulous response from the students and wider community. Mr Sellers, former History teacher at BHS and experienced trip leader, is once again going to lead this for us in 2020 as we raise money for Children's Cancer. Last time, we were lucky enough to attract the support of a number of parents and volunteers who played a crucial role in supporting the event. It is so worthwhile – not just because of the charity we support, but also as an experience for the students who benefit so much from the sense of achievement they accomplish through completing the challenge. Miss Allsop will be the link person in school and coordinate the organisation with Mr Sellers. Please see the attached letter for more details.

### **Yr 9 and 10: Army Visit**

Mr Chapman writes: On January 17th we will be visited by the Army who will be delivering an assembly about careers to students in years 9 and 10. They will also be running elite skills sessions for students in these year groups that will focus on teamwork, problem solving and self-motivation. There are limited places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If your son/ daughter is interested in kicking off the New Year by trying something a bit different or is interested in a career in the armed forces then this is the opportunity for you. Please see the attached letter and return the reply slip to Mr Chapman by Weds 8<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Special Mention For...**

Grace Barker from 7ACE who has passed her Grade 4 violin exam despite being poorly on the day, and struggling to sing the notes for the aural test. Two of our core values clearly on display here: Courage and Commitment...Well Done Grace!

### **NSEA Horse Riding**

Mrs Riley-Fox writes: Many thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets for the delicious Chocolate Hamper that was kindly donated by Isabella Thompson (Year 7) to raise funds for our NSEA Horse Riding Team, we raised £ 58.50p

The Winner: Mrs Bradley!

### **8CTE – New Form Tutor**

Parents will be aware from last week's letter that Miss Temple begins her new role as Head of Key Stage 4 in January. This means that Mr Chapman will be taking over the role of Form Tutor for Miss Temple's tutor group. I know that she leaves them with a heavy heart – she is incredibly proud of them and has really enjoyed being their tutor. The good news is that she will retain plenty of contact with them as they move through to Key Stage 4 next year. Mr Chapman is looking forward to taking on the group and I'm sure that he will continue to lead them forward, and develop equally strong relationships with the students and parents of this group.

### **Yr 11 GCSE PE Rock Climbing Trip**

Please can parents and students remember that this first session takes place on the Training Day 6<sup>th</sup> January – times shown below:

#### **6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

Leaving BHS at 9.30am prompt. Climbing 10.30am – 2.30pm.

Leave Rock Antics at 2.30pm. Return back to BHS for 3.30pm.

Students need appropriate footwear, warm clothes appropriate for climbing (no Jeans) and packed lunch and drinks;

#### **Fri 9th /16th January 2020**

Leaving BHS at 12.30pm (Need packed lunch).

Climbing 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Leave Rock Antics at 3.30pm. Return back to BHS for 4.30pm (Need to organise transport home).

### **Sports Update: U16 Girls' Football and Yr 7 Girls' and Boys' Football**

Miss Temple writes: On Monday our **U16 girls' football team** made the long 2 hour bus journey across the snowy hills to South Craven for the second round of the County Cup. The girls were looking to continue their fantastic cup run from last year, and they did exactly that. Less than 2 minutes after the first whistle the girls were 1-0 up through an excellent strike from Kate Gardiner. Despite a very strong performance from the opposition, we got another goal 15 minutes later through Chloe Harris meaning we went into half time 2-0 up. The second half was more of the same with great chances for both teams. However a fantastic display from our defence and goalkeeper along with Kate Gardiner scoring a further 3 goals meant we secured a 5-0 win and will progress to the quarter finals. There were lots of outstanding performances across the pitch, but the player of the match award

went to Chloe Harris who controlled the game exceptionally well in midfield. Well done to all players involved, it was a brilliant team performance.

On Wednesday our Year 7 boys' and Year 7 girls' football teams competed in the Hambleton and Richmondshire Area 5 aside tournament. This was an excellent, well organised event which gave our students lots of opportunity to play against all the other schools in the area. There were some excellent performances from both teams and the girls finished the tournament in 2nd place, only narrowly missing out on becoming overall winners - an impressive achievement. Well done to Evie Walker and Harley Sinclair who were our top goal scorers for the tournament.

### **Yr 11 Reports**

Year 11 students have been issued with their reports today. Parents will be able to see how they have performed in their recent PPE exams, and also their overall position in terms of how close they are to the end of year target. There are many positive comments and a number of strong performances from students who have been extremely conscientious and organised in their approach to revision. But there are also a number of students who now need to push on and really commit to a serious programme of revision starting in the New Year. Parents may be surprised to see 'Requires Improvement' in the Attitude to Learning column for some subject areas. Please remember that this is not about conduct in lessons – it is about how committed they are to improving their learning (through the work and attitude in lessons, but crucially – this is also about how much effort they are putting in to independent learning outside lessons).

After Christmas, our Yr 11 interventions begin in earnest and you will also receive a letter asking for your permission for your son/daughter to attend targeted revision sessions, based on their current performance. We are really fortunate that so many staff here are willing to give up extra time to offer these sessions, and we know that they have a significant impact when students take advantage of them.

Should you have any queries about any aspects of your son/daughter's report, please go back to their Form Tutor in the first instance.

### **Equipment/Uniform**

In some ways it's a natural 'end of term phenomenon', but we have definitely noticed a growing number of issues in the last couple of weeks in relation to uniform and missing equipment. I understand that this might seem a really minor thing to some parents, but I firmly believe that having strong routines and procedures around these basic aspects is what underpins the rest of our ethos and systems in school. Please continue to support us with these issues by ensuring that students are fully stocked with equipment, and returning to us in full school uniform in January. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

### **Texts and Messages from School**

If parents are replying to a text from school, please can you ensure that you name your son/daughter so that we can identify who the message is from and ensure that we reply through the appropriate staff. Thank you for your help with this.

### **Kooth Counselling – Available Over the Christmas Period**

Please see the attached poster as a reminder of how to access this online counselling service.

