



23 October 2020

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers,

Hasn't the first half term flown by?

The children have settled well, helped by the many advantages of them being in their own year group pod. We greet the children each morning and wave them off each afternoon, which has allowed us to get to know the children quickly. The pod also gives them their own area to work and play (although recent wet weather has curtailed that a little).

We are seeing some excellent classwork and amazing homework (we've been particularly impressed by some fantastic models of cells for science and some beautifully detailed illustrations of the Plague Doctor for art).

We spend as much time as we can in the pod and enjoy seeing some excellent behaviour for learning. Year 7 are certainly impressing all of the teaching and support staff as they are frequently 'topping the charts' in terms of behaviour and attendance.

The children have very quickly come to embody our values of excellence, friendship and respect and are well-versed in our expectations: ready, respectful and safe.

We endeavour to deal with any problems as quickly and effectively as we can, but please let us know about any issues in school that you are concerned about, either via email to [mccarten.h@northallertonschool.org.uk](mailto:mccarten.h@northallertonschool.org.uk) or by calling 01609 773340. Please note that for safety reasons, it is not possible to accommodate visitors on site at the moment.

#### STOP PRESS!

Our logbooks are changing! After half term your child will "receive" their digital logbook. It will replace the paper-based logbook that we have historically used and will be accessed via their Google accounts on chromebooks and/or other computer devices. Mrs Ellis and Mrs Andrew will work with your child to show them how to access and make the best use of it during their SAIL workshops. The logbook includes information relating to timetables, homework deadlines and expectations as well as other useful information relating to school life. Students will also have space to record their progress and Attitude to Learning data, coaching conversations and reading progress.

In addition to the change in logbooks, homework setting has also changed. In order to simplify this process, students can find and complete all of their work via Google Classroom. Some subjects, particularly science, maths and MFL, will ask students to log into another website such as Educake, Hegarty or Seneca to complete their work. However this will be clearly explained on Google Classroom.

With very best wishes for a restful half-term break.

Miss McCarten and Miss Cox