

Head of School's Weekly Update 16 April 2021

WELCOME BACK

We would like to welcome all our students back for the summer term. It has been a lovely start to the term and great to see lots of happy smiling faces amongst our students.

UNIFORM STANDARDS

We have high expectations of our students in all aspects of school life. We believe that high standards of uniform, behaviour and conduct; being properly equipped; high levels of attendance and punctuality give our students the very best chance of learning well and becoming successful participants in our shared communities. We have given students a week to settle back into the routines of the school day and have delivered assemblies and tutorials on why our expectations and values are so important for our school community. As part of that we have reiterated our uniform standards, which are: [here](#). Key things to note:

- Trainers are not permitted unless there is a valid medical reason, with a note.
- Official school skirts must be worn at an appropriate length.
- No jewellery other than a watch and one set of plain studs. Facial piercings are not permitted.
- Sweatshirts and hoodies worn over/under blazers are not allowed.
- Outdoor coats will no longer be allowed to be worn inside the school building unless there is a significant drop in temperature. Blazers must be worn at all times.
- Mobile phones are not permitted inside the building, unless directed by staff. Students may use their phone at break and lunchtime in their outdoor area.
- Students hairstyles should be appropriate for the school environment eg no shaved heads; extreme hair colours.

E-SAFETY

Please [click here](#) to view April's Online Safety newsletter. This month's edition focuses on the use of social media apps and the impact of harmful online challenges and hoaxes. Please also visit our website for other useful links to further advice and guidance.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

The Sixth Form Council have been hard at work over the course of the Easter holidays. Lennon in Year 12 developed a 10-day fitness challenge over the course of the Easter break, this was advertised to all pre-16 students. The purpose of which was to encourage our students to keep fit at home whilst lockdown restrictions were still in place. We hope that for those that engaged in the programme felt the benefit!

Through the Sixth Form Council, Rachael came up with the idea of creating an Easter craft challenge with the help from Mrs Allsop. The challenge, which was targeted at all students, was to create anything Easter themed over the half-term break. Mrs Allsop received a range of entries including Easter cakes, cards, bonnets and baskets! Rachael and Mrs Allsop judged all of the entries and came up with a 1st and 2nd place. A big congratulations to Sophia (1st place) and Ashton (2nd place) who have earned house points for Chapman House! A big thank you to Mrs Allsop for all of her work promoting and advertising the challenge and Rachael for creating, designing and developing the challenge.



Sophia

Ashton

A big congratulations to Grace and Amy for all of the hard work they have put into designing, recording and producing their 'Positive Mental Health' presentation which rolled out during tutor time on Wednesday. The presentation explored the themes of what mental health is and what and where to go if you are a young person who is struggling. Grace and Amy felt inspired to develop this short presentation in light of the pandemic and lockdown when the importance of reinforcing strategies and tips became vitally important.

SHORT STORY CLUB

The Year 7 Short Story Club has continued to grow and has recruited new members who have engaged with our most recent creative writing activities. Students are preparing to enter a range of competitions this summer and are also engaging in the prestigious Carnegie Book Award which sees students read and review some of the most exciting new titles that have been published recently.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Eighteen students in Year 11 are progressing extremely well towards their DofE Qualifying Expedition, to achieve their Bronze Award. They have successfully plotted their expedition routes as well as developing campcraft and cooking skills. Additionally, they have all achieved a St John Ambulance first aid certificate. The final Saturday morning session will take place this Saturday (17/04), where students will learn the countryside code, as well as developing map and compass skills on a practice walk around the local area. We wish all the students well for their upcoming qualifying expedition.

COVID - UPDATE

We have had **no** positive COVID cases reported in our school community this week.

Students should continue to carry out a Lateral Flow Test at home on a Sunday night and a Wednesday night and report the results to the NHS on <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and also to the school by using the following link

<https://forms.gle/csVPoVWY8wYoUbvL9>. **We would ask that if your child receives a positive test result that you contact the school as soon as possible so that we can track and trace and quickly identify any close contacts. Please email the school on**

response@northallertonschool.org.uk or telephone the school on 01609 773340. **The household will also need to isolate and a PCR test should be arranged for your child at a local testing centre as soon as possible.** Thank you for your continued support with this.

Updated DfE guidance for parents can be viewed [here](#)

FIRE ALARM

Please would you support us and speak to your child to reinforce the message that deliberately setting off a fire alarm is a serious matter. False alarms cause significant inconvenience and disruption to students, staff and visitors. They compromise everyone's safety in school and present a significant risk to the local community because the emergency services are not available to attend genuine emergencies whilst they are at the school. The Fire Brigade will prioritise the school over other emergency call-outs. The consequence for conspiring to have the alarm sounded is exclusion for a fixed period. The consequence for a student caught maliciously setting off the school fire alarm is permanent exclusion.

YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 ASSESSMENTS

Monday marks the beginning of the assessment period for Year 11 and Year 13 students. The classroom-based assessments will be used, alongside other prior assessment information, to form the teacher assessed grades that we need to submit in June. You can view a detailed calendar of all of the planned assessments [here](#).

LEAVING DATE FOR YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 STUDENTS

In line with government guidance we can confirm that Year 11 and Year 13 students will continue with their full-time studies, in school, up until the last day of this half-term. Friday 28th May will therefore be their official leaving date. At this point all of the classroom-based assessments will have been completed. The result days are scheduled for 10th August (Year 13) and 12th August (Year 11).