

## Head of School's Weekly Update 7 May 2021

### YEAR 11 & YEAR 13 ASSESSMENTS

We would like to say how proud we are of our Year 11 and Year 13 students for the way they have prepared for, and engaged in their assessments over the past three weeks. Their attendance has been excellent; giving them the best possible chance to achieve the grades they deserve. They have shown great maturity, resilience and determination in such difficult times. We thank them all.

### ONLINE SAFETY

Please find [here](#) this month's Online Safety Newsletter which has a focus on social media apps.

### SIXTH FORM NEWS

Our Sixth Form Council met with the new CEO, Richard Crane, this week to introduce themselves and discuss the projects that they are currently undertaking. He was delighted to hear about all the exciting things they have planned and is keen to be involved and support our student council.

### Brilliant Club Graduation

Thursday evening saw the long awaited graduation ceremony of our Year 12 students that partook in the Brilliant Club. The Brilliant Club gave seven of our students the opportunity to work alongside a PhD tutor from Leeds Beckett University to complete a 3000 word essay exploring the idea of whether Fairy Tales such as Snow White, Beauty and the Beast and Cinderella are suitable stories to share with young people. Under normal circumstances, a formal graduation ceremony would have taken place, but in light of current circumstances this took place virtually. It was a tremendous achievement to complete these essays alongside their A-Level studies, on a difficult topic. A massive congratulations to all of the Brilliant Club graduates!



### YEAR 10 AND 12 EXAMS

Year 10 students will sit internal exams during the two weeks following our return after the half-term holiday i.e. Monday 7th June until Friday 18th June. Year 12 students will sit their internal exams during the week beginning Monday 21st June.

The exams will be used to assess students' progress in all of their subjects during the course of the year. They are not external exams so will not be used to determine students' final grades. Parents will receive students' grades as part of the PRP3 report which is due to be published at the beginning of July. Teachers will be speaking to their classes over the next few weeks to explain the topics which will be tested and to share useful revision materials.

### 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 these home test 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. This can be done by either phoning**

the school on 01609 773340 or by sending an email to the school on the following email address [response@northallertonschool.org.uk](mailto:response@northallertonschool.org.uk) 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.

Please note that if your child is showing symptoms of COVID (temperature, cough, loss of taste or smell) then a PCR test needs to be arranged at a testing centre and you should not use a home LFT. This also applies if your child is sent home with COVID symptoms. The child (and household members) should self isolate until the result is received.

Thank you for your continued support with this. Updated DfE guidance for parents can be viewed [here](#)

We have also included a link [here](#) to a blog about the importance of testing and reporting which also features further guidance and common questions and details financial support available to parents whose children are asked to self isolate after contact with a positive case.

### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

Last weekend, sixteen Year 11 DofE students successfully completed the qualifying expedition section of their bronze award. All students performed amazingly well, utilising the skills they developed during the recent training sessions. They acted responsibly, representing themselves and the school impressively, with great maturity and should be commended for this. Well done - these students should be hugely proud of their achievements.

Year 10 DofE update - an email was sent out last week relating to the upcoming training sessions in June. The midweek sessions will now take place on a Wednesday after school, rather than a Tuesday, to avoid any clashes with other after school activities. Invitation to these training sessions will be sent out towards the end of this half term.

### **2021 ARETÉ CHALLENGES**

Don't forget that there are Areté Challenges in biology, drama, English, food, maths and physics. The challenges are open to all students in Years 7 to 13. More information is here - [Areté Challenges 2021 - Information for students](#). The deadline for entries is 4th June.

### **STUDENT DROP OFF/COLLECTION**

Could we politely remind parents that If you are dropping a student off at school to avoid using the entrance on Grammar School Lane. This needs to be kept free for school buses and students to safely enter the school. Please use the parking bays beyond the school entrance. Thank you.

### **YEAR 7 SHORT STORY CLUB**

Mr Murphy, Ms Causley, and the members of the Year 7 Short Story Club are preparing to welcome Year 6s to Northallerton School & Sixth Form College through a series of virtual club sessions to give prospective Year 6 students the chance to get a flavour of our school life through extra-curricular activities. Stay tuned for further news!

### **FESTIVAL OF SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ARTS**

On Friday 28 May the Expressive Arts Faculty are going to be getting involved in the upcoming Festival of School and College Arts.

This celebration aims to showcase the creativity and joy which forms such an important part of education. It is a festival that is open to every school and college, with participants taking part by posting the artistic achievements of pupils and students on Twitter on that day using the hashtag #EduArtsFest.

As a school we plan to take part in this by sharing examples of the fantastic work that our students have done this year across art, drama, media and music. By sharing pictures and videos of our students' work via our social media accounts we want to showcase the fantastic creativity within our school.

More information will follow closer to the time, but look out for #nssfc and our contribution to this festival at the end of this term.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

We have a large amount of lost property which has accumulated in school. If your child has lost any item of clothing, school uniform, PE kit, lunchbox, pencil case etc, please would you encourage them to go to our student reception to check if it has been handed in. Thank you.