

Head of School's Weekly Update 30 April 2021

LEAVING DATE FOR YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13

The official leaving date for Year 11 and Year 13 students will be Friday 28th May 2021. This will be their last full day of school and will culminate in a celebration assembly for each year group to reflect on and celebrate their time at Northallerton School & Sixth Form College.

Up until this date we will continue to teach students and assess their work to inform their Teacher Assessed Grades.

After the half term we will continue to support our students remotely and, on some occasions, in person, with a series of activities to prepare students for their next steps. We intend to offer careers advice and bridging programmes for Year 11 students who will be staying with us into our Sixth Form. We will be providing more information about this support later this half term.

Mrs V Rahn

SIXTH FORM NEWS

Sixth Form Council - Local History Project

The Local History Project, designed by Rebecca in Year 12 was advertised on Monday to all parents via Facebook and we have already received a number of interesting enquiries! We want to take this opportunity to encourage all parents, grandparents, uncles, nieces, carers with interesting local stories to tell to get in touch. If you have an interesting local story to tell, or know somebody in your family that might be interested in contributing to this amazing project, then email northallertonstories@northallertonschool.org.uk.

There is no limit on how long this piece of writing can be and we would encourage, where at all possible, for photos to be included in your message.

We are setting an initial deadline of June 4th to determine the level of interest in this project.

To make this project viable we are looking for at least 20 submissions, so any contributions would be greatly appreciated.

NEW ATTENDANCE OFFICER

We would like to welcome our new Attendance Officer to the team - Mrs Causley. Please find attached a message from Mrs Causley:

I am very pleased to have joined the team at Northallerton School. It felt a bit like coming home as I attended this school from 1994 - 1998 and thoroughly enjoyed my time here. Northallerton College (as it was known then) gave me a good grounding for my future endeavours and I can see that even though the school has gone through several changes, the core ethos within learning and achievement remains the same.

This is a brand new challenge for me and I'm looking forward to making a difference. My previous working history has taken me to Africa and back - having worked as a paramedic in the fifth most dangerous country in the world - I think it would be fair to say, I don't frighten easily!

As a parent myself I understand the pressures that our young people are put under today. There are so many aspects of everyday life that have moved on at such an immense pace, it can so easily feel that we have got left behind a little bit. This is why I see my role as such an important one - not only by safeguarding and improving children's attendance, but also working with you as parents to find reasonable solutions to help achieve this. There is always a reason for poor attendance and it is so important that we communicate with each other and formulate early plans and solutions before occurrences become habits.

I would like to thank you in advance for your support and please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns you may have.

CARNEGIE MEDAL SHOWING GROUP 2021

The CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medals are the UK's oldest and best-loved children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for children and young people.

The CILIP Carnegie Medal is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book written in English for children and young people.

A national (and international) reading for pleasure initiative, the CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards Shadowing scheme engages thousands of children and young people in reading the books on the shortlist via reading groups in schools and public libraries. Each year young people who take part in the scheme are invited to vote for their favourite books to win the Shadowers' Choice Awards, which are announced alongside the Medal winners at the annual

winners' ceremony.

At Northallerton School, our shadowing group of 10 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 are busy reading the shortlisted books:

Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo

Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk

Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds

Run Rebel by Manjeet Mann

On Midnight Beach by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick

The Fountains of Silence by Ruta Sepetys

The Girl Who Became A Tree by Joseph Coelho

The Girl Who Speaks Bear by Sophie Anderson

Visit the website WWW.CKG.ORG.UK to find out more and watch videos with the authors

Mrs Brayshaw

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 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

After several weeks of preparation (including three Saturday morning sessions), the Year 11 DofE Bronze qualifying expedition takes place this Saturday and Sunday. We wish all the students involved every success on their expedition and we hope they enjoy it! A letter was emailed this week to Year 10 DofE participants about the preparations and dates for their expedition. We look forward to supporting students to achieve their full DofE Bronze Award.

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](#)

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Another student has achieved her Bronze PD Award - Yasmen in 7DTh. Congratulations Yasmen!

YEAR 7 SHORT STORY CLUB

The Year 7 Short Story Club has inducted its newest member, our very own Mrs Causley, and we have begun experimenting with our writing by responding to Story Cubes: a useful writing exercise to creatively and imaginatively produce original ideas through the use of various images as creative stimuli. Watch this space for upcoming stories...

Additionally, the club has teamed up with the Carnegie Medal reading club to read and review the latest prestigious award for newly published children's literature.

Year 7 are currently producing their own poetry portfolios so watch this space and the school's social media for works from various students!

YEAR 7 DRAMA CLUB

The new Year 7 Drama Club started after school on Tuesday this week. The Head of Drama, Mr Stimson, was joined in the Drama Studio by 27 enthusiastic and lively Year 7 students who attended and took part in a range of drama activities that challenged their creative skills. Lots of fun was had by all and we look forward to next Tuesday when the group will begin working towards a performance.