

Headteacher's Fortnightly Update - 17th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carers

Dates for your diary

25th November	Challenge 2 Change Community Action Day
1st December	Training Day - School closed to all students.
7th December	Year 13 Progress Evening.
13th December	Christmas Concert.
14th December	Year 11 Progress Evening.

Y11 Trial Exams, Mock Results Event and Y11 Progress Evening

Students will receive their trial exam grades as part of a mock results event which takes place on Wednesday 6th December. We would like parents and carers to accompany their son / daughter to this event where possible. In the event, we will set up the sixth form centre exactly as we will in the summer to give students an authentic experience of what it will be like on Thursday 22nd August 2024. We have run this type of event with other year groups in recent years. The real power of the event is being able to say to students that "if they don't like what they see in the results envelope then there is still time to do something about it!" As part of the evening I will be speaking to parents to explain what students can and should be doing in the time remaining.

Parents and students will be asked to book a 30 minute slot, using the booking form [here](#), between the times of 4:30pm and 6:30pm.

The following week (Thursday 14th december) we have our Y11 progress evening. During this evening, which runs from 3:45pm to 6:30pm, parents will be able to make appointments with each subject teacher. We hope that the time between the mock results event and the progress evening will allow you to think about which teachers you would like to speak to and the questions you would like to ask them.

Anti-Bullying Week



This week students have completed the following:

This week all students have taken part in an assembly to raise awareness of Anti-bullying week and to learn how to challenge bullying behaviour appropriately.

This has included information on how to be an UPSTANDER and not a BYSTANDER. Students have discussed how to identify the different roles in various scenarios based on the definitions of Aggressor, Target, Participant, Bystander, Upstander.

Attendance

Please remember that we need to be contacted every day that your child is absent from school.. All absences must be reported by 8:30am every morning.

This can be in any of the following ways:

Email to attendance-nor@arete.uk

Phone - 01609 773340 Option 1

Text - 07860055228

#Challenge To Change- Community Action Day



**Northallerton School
& Sixth Form College**
Being the best we can be

Welcomes you to our

Community Action Day

**On Saturday 25th November 2023,
join us from 10:00am until
14:00pm in our Cuthbert Hall.**

We want to raise awareness around Hate Crime & Bullying.
There are lots of free activities for the family to get involved with and an opportunity to see the work that we and the local community are doing and how you can get involved.

- Face Painting
- Badge Making
- Information stands from local community groups
- Meet our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors
- Meet our Student Council
- Find out about our campaign #ChallengeToChange
- Tombola
- Refreshments inc. Bacon & Sausage Buns
- Friendship Bracelet Making
- and more...

Areté Learning Trust

EVERYONE is welcome! Please do come and join us.

Parentpay Shop

If you need to order a new tie, these are available from the Parentpay shop area. Please note they are no longer available from your child's individual parent pay account.

To visit the Parentpay Shop please click on the following link:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=11138>

Online Safety Newsletter

Please click [here](#) to view the latest online safety newsletter.

Sixth Form

Sixth Form students have had a visit from Northallerton Citizens Advice Bureau who talked about the work they did and the volunteering opportunities that they have. These opportunities are excellent for students who wish to study law at university. If students are interested they need to see Mrs Redpath. Our next speaker will be representing the UK Parliament and will be explaining how parliament works and how in particular how laws are made.

The student council is now meeting on a weekly basis and next week will be hosting assemblies with all year groups to introduce themselves and talk about their aims for the upcoming year.

Careers

Year 10 students had the opportunity last week to attend a talk about local apprenticeships given by Allerton Steel. Year 11 students are currently having their individual careers interviews, all the Year 11 students will have had at least one interview with a careers advisor before Easter.

Parent Governors

We are seeking to appoint two parent governors to join Northallerton School's Local Governing Body (LGB). For more information please click [here](#) to read the letter to parents and [here](#) to view the nomination form.

The deadline for nominations is 12 noon on Friday 8th December 2023.

Reading and Literacy

We are really excited to be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair at the end of this month. All students will have the opportunity to visit the fair in the library and purchase books. There will also be competitions to win book vouchers and discounts on popular titles. Further details about how and when books can be bought will be coming soon.

All our reading/literacy/English extra-curricular activities are now up and running. The KS4/5 Book Club met recently with record attendance; the next book we will be reading is *Ariadne* by Jennifer Saint. We would like to recruit more students for the KS3 Book Club so please encourage any keen and experienced readers in years 7, 8 and 9 to come to the library after school for our next meeting on Tuesday 28th November. We also need more members for our school newspaper so students in years 10-13 you would like to be involved in this should contact Mr. Watkins.

Our first two instalments of Word of the Week this half-term are hierarchy and virtue; our latest Fortnightly Literacy Focus is another tricky one - *its or it's!*

Homework (ACX)

We are continuing to monitor our new homework policy (see here - [FINAL Homework Policy \(Sept 2023\)](#)). Student voice tells us that already, students are doing more homework, more students have specific 'homework time' when they do their homework, more students are reporting that they have a place at home where they can do their homework comfortably and more students say that they are receiving help at home - so thank you for your support! Please let us know if you feel that your child would benefit from attending a homework club at school, we currently have clubs for SEN students and Year 7 students.

LIFE

This half term our LIFE lessons for Years 7-10 are about *Celebrating Difference*. Year 11 students are learning about *Dreams and Goals*.

Knowledge Organisers

Our knowledge organisers are now in use for all year 7 and year 8 students. These booklets support learning in the classroom but are also invaluable in supporting students with their independent learning and homework. It's a great opportunity for parents, carers and other adults to be involved in students' learning - why not try using the KOs to quiz students at home on key knowledge and vocabulary? The year 9 booklets will be distributed on Monday and all KS3 students will get a new KO in January.

Extra Curricular

This is our extra-curricular offer for this term - [Northallerton Extra Curricular Activities Term 1 2023/24 \(Sept...](#)

LIFE Extra Curricular Strand

Our Year 10 students are currently enjoying an extra curricular course in their fortnightly LIFE lessons, they have chosen from Italian, philosophy, natural history, sports leadership, fitness, book club, debating and mindfulness. The younger year groups will have this opportunity later in the year.

Cross Country

On Wednesday Northallerton School hosted the Hambleton and Richmondshire Area cross country championships. There were 10 Schools from across the area competing, with at least 60 runners in each race. On what was an incredibly wet afternoon, all the students performed brilliantly, with Northallerton having some excellent results both in year group teams and individually.

The Year 7 boys teams won their competition, with the Year 9, 10 & 11 teams both finishing second, with superb individual performances from so many. However, a few special mentions; Jake in Year 7, who slipped at the start and was a good 20 metres behind the rest at the first corner, recovered to win his 2.5km race by about 150m. He was followed in second place by Jack, with Joel finishing 9th.

Max won the Year 9 boys race, with Corley finishing 6th. Cameron came second in the Year 10/11 race, with Josh finishing 8th, Henry 13th and Reece 16th.

In the girls competitions, our Year 7 girls came 2nd in the team event, losing out by 3 points to Richmond. Georgia was amazing and came first, with India 6th and Sophia 10th. Esme (Year 10/11 race) and Dougal (Year 8 boys) also had top 10 finishes in what were fantastic achievements.

All the students were amazing and it was great to see so much determination and commitment from them all in very difficult conditions. The Hambleton and Richmondshire trials are the next event and judging by the performances and results this week, there should be quite a few Northallerton students qualifying to represent the H&R Area team at the County finals in January.

A special mention to our 6th form volunteers; Noah, Ollie, Josh, Magnus and Jim who helped Mr Myers throughout the day, setting up and clearing away the course, acting as stewards during the races and helping to manage our teams. Well done to everyone involved.

With kind regards



Mrs V Rahn
Headteacher