

Head's Blog Friday 7th October

Highlights of the week

Our sixth formers have been demonstrating their leadership skills by getting involved in the life of the school. Our peer reading programme began last week in our LRC. It was delightful to see year 7 students reading with 6th form mentors. Others sixth formers have stepped up and given up their breaks and lunches to support our younger year groups by being on duty at social times. After the success of our published writers that we shared last week, our next cohort of budding authors have begun their First Story journey. On Thursday next week we have our Parent Power Hour for Y11 parents. This will provide information for Y11 parents about how they can support their children in preparation for their mocks and beyond.

Attendance for the week

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Year 7	94.1%	90.8	92.6	91.2	88.6
Year 8	90.9%	91.7	89.8	92.2	90.3
Year 9	89.4%	88.1	87.3	86.2	85.8
Year 10	89.6%	87.3	87.3	86.1	87.7
Year 11	83.6%	82.2	84.7	84.5	82.9
Year 12	97.3%	96.6	95.6	95.7	92.9
Year 13	95.0%	93.3	88.7	93.1	84.6

Key

94+% (National Average 2019)	
92-93.9%	
<92%	

1142 of our students had 100% attendance this week.

649 of our students had 100% attendance and 100% punctuality this week – WELL DONE!

705 students have had 100% attendance for all 5 weeks.

516 students have had 100% attendance and been on time every day this year.

As we move into the last fortnight of this half-term, we want all students to be in 100%. The best attending tutor groups in each year this week will be getting a rewards breakfast next week as a well done. And don't forget: **Every day, every lesson, every minute, counts!**

Positive achievements

After 5 weeks Year 8 top the charts for positive achievements with Y7 close behind... well done Year 8 but can you stay at the top?

	Positive achievement points
Year 8	22453
Year 7	20951
Year 10	16282
Year 11	15750
Year 9	14321

Great learning this week



Hard work seen this week in Y11 Maths, Y9 English Y10 Spanish and Y7 Art. Lots of enjoyment, great learning and determination to succeed!

Tutor time and assembly (Personal Development) this week

Students were excited to hear from a special visitor, Carl, this week who spoke to all year groups about staying safe. He delivered some really important safety messages in a relaxed, fun way. Carl works for the St Giles Trust in Leeds, he came to share his experiences as a gang leader, his time in prison and in particular how students can spot signs of grooming and stay safe from County Lines gangs who operate all over the country.



We were all reflective and sobered by assembly this week on Black History Month. Mrs Ransom, Head of History, has really made us think hard about privilege, the experience of people of colour and how significant the contribution is today of black people in the UK.

Black History Month started over a hundred years ago in the US, as a way to bring Black voices and stories to discussions of history. It was first recognised in the UK in the 1980s, organised in October by Akyaaba Addai-Sebo, to acknowledge 150 years of Caribbean freedom and the 100th birthday of Marcus Garvey.

The theme for Black History Month 2022 is Time for Change: Action Not Words.

'Black people are often given the double burden of experiencing racism and discrimination, and then being expected to fix it. Hopefully, by making the theme of this year's Black History Month magazine and website Time for Change: Action Not Words' we can come together to make a change for the better.'



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Students have also had the chance to explore in more depth the rationale and thinking behind why it's so important to be on time to school and on time to lessons. We can all do better tomorrow and being on time routinely helps everyone to learn and remember more.

We are all here to **learn**

What do we have to do to help us **learn** and make every minute count?

- Moving to each lesson with **pace and purpose** increases **learning** time.
- Being **fully equipped** every day means we can all be **learning** as soon as we arrive.
- Students walking late into the lesson affects the attention of the rest of the group and the teacher, making **learning** harder.
- Following the arrows on the one-way corridors ensures everyone can move easily with **pace and purpose** to their next lesson.
- Remember **learning is hard** – every positive routine helps us to **learn more and remember more**.

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Y11 News

Another fantastic week in the classroom for year 11, below are some of our year 11s working hard in maths, if you look close enough you can see smoke come out of their ears, they are thinking that hard!



In other Year 11 news, we welcomed a new starter to the year group from the Ukraine, our year 11 group has been really welcoming to her and helping where they can which led to this post on social media:

Our year 11 Ukranian guest had her first day at school today. She came home really happy and content. She's missed socialising so much and desperately wants to make friends. She was really complementary and almost taken aback at how kind and interested her peers were in how she was doing throughout the day. I just want to express personal thanks should any of those peers be your children, thank you. We're very grateful. It means a lot.

Well done Year 11!

The Y11 netball team were in action this week and were successful in both fixtures; beating Hanson 12-1 and Bronte 5-0

Y7 News

Well done to the Y7 boys who represented the school football team this week, they played exceptionally well to gain a win at Dixons Cottingley. We have also had rugby fixtures against Parkside and Beckfoot, on Saturday, several Y7's also had the opportunity to represent school at Keighley RFUC on their brilliant 4G pitch! Over 20 girls from Y7 have attended the after-school cheerleading club run by Miss Pearce each

week. They are doing amazing! We look forward to seeing them perform in the rewards assembly in the last week of term.

Y8 News

Ava in Year 8 featured in the blog 3 weeks ago as she is due to audition for The Voice Kids! This week she has been awarded the Student of the Year award by Bolt Academy a Professional Performance Academy based in Keighley. She was chosen for her hard work and determination out of 250 students! Well done Ava.

Scarlett T in Year 8 joined Bolt Academy less than a year ago and has already been awarded 'A Night at the Musical Medal'! She will be in the 'Step into Christmas' production where she will be playing 'The Aunt', as well as being in the rock group. Scarlett has also taken up playing the drums. She started when she was little and has just resumed playing again. Mrs Askham was in awe of her when she saw her playing the drums in her Music lesson this week!

Y9 News

Good luck to Quinn K who will be competing in the Yorkshire Short Course Swimming Finals in Leeds this weekend. He's qualified for all 12 races so we can't wait to hear how he does.

Another great week of learning for Year 9, I have been visiting Humanities lessons and been very impressed at how knowledgeable you are about different climates and the impact of climate change.

Y10 News

Another good week for Year 10 students, as they continue to impress their teachers and the Year team with their positive attitude to the first year of GCSEs. Congratulations for your third place in the positive stamps league table – beating off Year 9 and Year 11 in the process! Next targets: Year 7 and 8!

Post 16 news

Huge congratulations to our Y13 students who have already received offers from University. We are proud to report that one of our Y13 students has applied to Oxford University, and we wish her all the best in her application. We'd also like to wish the best of luck to our three Medics/Dentists who have also submitted their applications – good luck to you all.

These last two weeks has seen the launch of student leadership at Post 16. Peer Reading has made a successful start with 17 Post 16 student leaders supporting Year 7 students with their reading on a Wednesday and Thursday during registration. This week has seen a huge number of Y12 students in orange hi-vis vests supporting main school lunches as lunch time supervisors. We are really proud of these students as they are setting a great example to our lower school students.

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