

Head's Blog Friday 14th October

Highlights of the week

Last night was our Y11 Parent Power Hour where Y11 students and their families came to pick up revision tips in advance of the mock exams. Mr Ray shared loads of useful advice about how to revise and prepare – faculty leads gave top tips for English, Maths and Science and Mr Delgado was there with information about our sixth form offer. I've been really impressed with how year 11 have been focussed in class and making the most of all of the opportunities available to them. We will get the presentation onto the website soon.



Our pastoral staff received training from the Commando Joes team this week preparing for our initial cohort of Y8 students who will be taking part in Operation Blackout after half term.

As we approach the end of a busy first half term, I want to acknowledge all of those students who get it right day in day out – they arrive on time, uniform is great – they have their equipment, they get to every lesson on time and they engage fully in their learning modelling our school values of enjoy, **learn succeed**. I'm sure the Year teams will recognise this in their celebration assemblies next week.

We have a small minority of students who struggle to be on time for lessons – all students need to be in every lesson **before the late bell** rings. This isn't in line with our expectations, and we expect to see an improvement from this group of students next week as punctuality to lessons is so important.

Attendance for the week

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Year 7	92.7	94.1	93.8	93.9	92.7
Year 8	94.8	94.6	92.9	93.4	91.2
Year 9	88.5	88.8	90	89.4	88.4
Year 10	89.1	89.8	89.4	88.9	86.9
Year 11	85.8	85.4	84.7	83.6	81.5
Year 12	96.6	98.7	100	97.2	98.6
Year 13	91.4	93.2	97.7	93.1	91.4

Key

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

1242 of our students had 100% attendance this week.

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

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

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

Although we know that some of our year groups – especially Y11 – have to make some real improvements to reach National attendance, this week has been slightly better. Let's have a really strong final week for attendance, so we can end the first half-term on a high. And don't forget: **Every day, every lesson, every minute, counts!**

The best attending form each year group have attended their rewards breakfast each day this week. A great way to start the day. Well done to **7GBO, 8JEL, 9RGO, 10JBO, 11BME, 12 JIC and 13BWH**. Who will be this week's winners?

Positive achievements

Year 8 remain top of the charts overall for positive achievements with Y7 close behind... well done Year 8 but can you stay at the top? Year 7 were the top year group last week – just – week done Y7

(Year to date)		Last week	
Year 8	26552	Year 7	4990
Year 7	25375	Year 8	4896
Year 10	19152	Year 10	3416
Year 11	18184	Year 9	3388
Year 9	17106	Year 11	2808

Tutor time and assembly (Personal Development) this week

Staying safe online was the theme of this week's thought-provoking assembly – many thanks to Mr Shearn for delivering it to all year groups. Two key stage 4 students remarked afterwards how important it was to have these regular reminders about how easy it is to reveal too much online, and his friend has gone away to ensure that social media settings are locked down to private.

In terms of building character, we have really focussed on exploring the 'why' - why do we need safe and calm routines at the end of break and lunch? Students have discussed these reasons after seeing them in assembly and their tutor lesson.



Learning is hard and so we have to make every minute count in lessons to learn more and remember more.

We are all here to learn

Leaving Break and Lunch in a **safe and calm routine** is really important. It means we can all move to lessons with **pace and purpose**, and so increase **learning** time – remember **every minute counts**. Having a **safe and calm routine** means we can ensure the atrium is left **clean, tidy and litter-free**.

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We are all here to learn

- Leaving Break and Lunch in a **safe and calm routine** increases **learning** time, it means there are no interruptions to the lesson, or to your hard work. **Marginal gains add and make a big impact.**
- Moving with pace and purpose keeps everyone safe, and it increases our ability to **succeed** as well as our improve our **learning**.

We are all here to learn

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

- When the whistle is blown, waiting silently in your seat to be dismissed from the atrium keeps stairs and corridors **safe and calm**.
- Allowing adults to check for litter means we can all take responsibility to keep our lovely school **clean, tidy and litter-free**.
- Moving to each lesson with **pace and purpose** increases **learning** time. Safe and calm corridors are more **enjoyable** places.
- Students walking late into the lesson affects the attention of the rest of the group and the teacher, making **learning** harder.
- Remember **learning is hard** – every positive routine helps us to **learn more and remember more**. This means we can all **succeed**.

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Next week is another busy one, we are looking forward to hosting a Holocaust survivor on Tuesday, Milena will visit to speak to Y9 students and talk about her experiences on the kindertransport. Also, next week is the first LGBT+ student group meeting of the year – this was very popular last year and very well attended. As well as this Year Teams will be holding the much-anticipated reward assemblies for each year group!

Y11 News

Great to see so many Y11 students and families at our Parent Power hour last night. The resources from last night will shortly be added to our website for you to access.

After last week's success when our Year 11 girls' netball team attended their first away fixture of the year at Beckfoot School. Where the girls showed great maturity and resilience to win both games against Bronte and Hanson. The girls were even nice enough to let one of our players play on another team who were short of players. Great sportsmanship demonstrated girls. Same again this Thursday where the winning streak continued by beating Holy Family 7-1 and Beckfoot Bingley 3-1. Well done...unstoppable.



Y7 News

Well done to 7GBO for winning the attendance award this week! They were rewarded with a free breakfast on Friday. Congratulations to Alfie Eason who represented Bradford Boys SFA at football last weekend.

Y8 News

Felicity in Year 8 has created a fantastic piece of English homework. It was a research task on Dyslexia linked to the novel 'When the Sky Falls'! Well done, Felicity!



Well done to Santiago, Jackson, Jamie and Freddie who stepped in to play for the Year 9 football Team on Wednesday evening.

Congratulations to Lucas who has recently completed the British Indoor Karting Championship Regional Finals. During the first lap Lucas set his fastest lap ever and eventually came 14th on the track (racing against adults and children)! Good work Lucas.

Y10 News

Another very good week for Y10, with 90% of students doing absolutely everything right, all day, every day. They are really building the positive habits and routines that will lead to big success in Year 11.

In other news, our very own Paige won GOLD in the karate national championships last weekend and may qualify for the European Championships because of this. We got to see the medal too: impressive and very heavy! Congratulations from all in Year 10, and the rest of the school – we are incredibly proud of you Paige!



Post 16 news

This week sees us up to 12 UCAS applications being submitted, and 7 students have already received offers

Four Y13 students are taking part in the Live Virtual NHS Healthcare Careers Work experience programme to help them secure the vital experience needed to apply for university degrees related to NHS careers. We actively support our students to seek Virtual opportunities.

<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/search?status=Open>

New to our enriching opportunities this year is the Virtual university experience – take a look and support your child in their university application:

https://university.springpod.com/?_ga=2.8033717.685568722.1665648392-76589059.1644219308

Finally, this week Y12 had an assembly from Leeds University about the Reach for Excellence scheme which aims to support and motivate young people who demonstrate academic potential but who may face barriers towards entering university.

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