

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

In some respects, it seems difficult to believe that we have already reached the end of the Spring term as most of students have been in the building for less than three weeks. However, staff and students have been working hard from dining room tables, re-purposed sheds, bedroom offices and the school building since 5th January and it's time for a proper break.

On Tuesday we took some time to reflect on the impact of the past 12 months on all of our lives. Inevitably much of the focus was on loss. We should also take time to focus on the many achievements of our school community so far this year.

We have awarded 26,000 positive points on Classcharts, sent out countless Nidderdale STARS and pastoral postcards and seen some amazing home learning. The staff team have set up a lateral flow testing centre from scratch, mastered the technology to allow for live teaching online and continued to offer online parents' evenings and meetings. Parents have continued to juggle work commitments, home learning and keeping homelife going.

Looking to the future, we were delighted to learn that, once again we are over subscribed for September 2021, with a waiting list for places in Year 7. Year 9 have made their option choices for GCSE and BTEC subjects after watching online subject presentations. Year 11 have started their preparation for the final assessments that will help their teachers to decide on the grades to be submitted to the exam boards for approval.

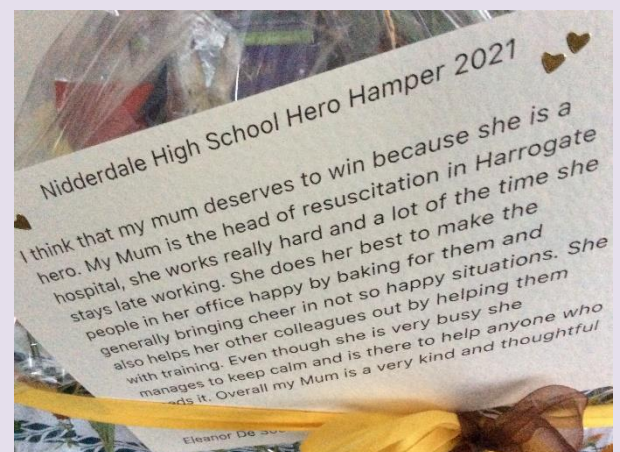
Many times over the past months we have said to our families, 'whatever you have done, it's enough'. Now it is time to take some time for a proper break from the difficulties of home learning and the exhaustion of the fulltime return to work and school. We will look forward to welcoming all of our students back to school on Tuesday 13th April with a focus on being **ready** to learn, **respectful** of ourselves and others and maintaining the **safety** of our whole school community.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

Pastoral Hero – Easter Hamper

Thank you to all our families and friends who are amazing and continue to be so in many different roles throughout our community.

Thank you Eleanor De Souza for her lovely winning nomination for her Mum to be awarded the Easter Pastoral Hero Hamper. We loved reading about how her mum works so hard at Harrogate Hospital and is always there to help anyone who needs it, especially making people happy in her office by baking and generally bringing cheer.



Students' family to feature on TV

Remarkable Places to Eat: Yorkshire (including 'Stonebeck' Cheese) will be broadcast on Tuesday 30th March on BBC2 at 8pm with presenter Fred Sirieix and featuring Nadiya Hussain. The programme includes visits to Saltburn, Betty's in Harrogate, Malham Cove and Leeds and a storyline will focus on the Hattan family's herd of rare breed cows and the tasting of the 'Stonebeck' cheese they produce.

Term Time Information

- 29 March – 9 April 21 - Easter break
- 12 April 21 - Staff training day
- 13 April 21 - Students return
- 3 May – school closed – May Day
- 31 May – 4 June – Half term break
- 23 July - 2.15 p.m. School closes - Summer break

Uniform

Since our return to school on 8th March, we have been mindful that some families may have struggled to access all items of uniform. From 13th April, we will expect all students to wear full school uniform and PE uniform.

All branded uniform items can be purchased from our stockists Rawcliffes in Harrogate and Smart Start in Ripon. Both continue to offer online ordering and delivery or collection service.

- All students are required to wear black school shoes, not trainers (except on PE days).
- School skirts must be Nidderdale branded. Tube skirts/lycra skirts are not permitted.

PE kit is:

- Maroon Panelled Polo top (available from Stockists only)
- Black PE shorts or Black Skort (available from Stockists only)
- Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- Black knee-length socks/trainer socks
- Training shoes

In addition students may wear black joggers or leggings and a Nidderdale hoodie or plain black hoodie.

Lateral Flow testing during the Easter Holidays

All students who took part in the LFT programme at school have been issued with enough home testing kits to use through the Easter break. Students should continue to test each Sunday and Wednesday evening or Monday and Thursday morning. Please continue to report all results to the [NHS via this link](#) and [school via this link](#).

Covid symptoms during the Easter break

We hope that all of our school community remain well during the Easter break and the following information is not required. Please follow the guidance below if your child develops Covid symptoms during the holiday.

Public Health England have asked schools to continue contact tracing activities for 6 days after the end of term. At this school this will be Thursday 2nd April.

This means that if any member of our school community (student or staff) becomes unwell with Covid symptoms on Saturday 27th or Sunday 28th March and subsequently tests positive for Covid 19, we will need to be involved in contact tracing if that person was in school on Thursday 25th or Friday 26th March.

Reporting a positive case

If your child develops symptoms over this weekend, please access a test in the usual way. If this test is positive then you will need to inform school. Please email admin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk as soon as a test result has been received. From Saturday 27th March this email account will be checked several times up to 3pm each day.

If your child develops symptoms from Monday 29th March onwards, then you should still seek a test but you will not need to notify school of the result, instead you should follow NHS contact tracing advice.



Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Our final total raised was an incredible £1077.

Students enjoyed a non-uniform day and took part in Mr Connors' comedy quiz.

Our Work Walking group hit John o'Groats on Monday evening having walked a collective 2,299,172 steps.

National Day of Reflection

23 March

On Tuesday 23rd March staff and students took part in activities to reflect on the impact of the past 12 months and the Covid 19 pandemic.

Students started the day by watching this poem by Tyrone Lewis [Everybody Hates Grief by Tyrone Lewis | Spoken Word | #DayOfReflection - YouTube](#) Then they had the opportunity to write their own reflections on the year, which we will bring together in some form so that we can reflect together in the future. The Pastoral Team will also be organising some further activities and support for those students who have asked for this.

At 12 noon the whole school community took part in the one minute silence for personal reflection.

Nidderlicious

Our weekly menu has been uploaded to the website. We look forward to welcoming you back to school and serving your favourites.

Click here to see the menu for w/c 13th April

[Nidderdale High School Menu](#)

NYCC have asked us to share this information with parents/carers.

Marie Collins Foundation are pleased to announce a series of online workshops aimed at parents and carers to help them understand online harm and how they can better support their children - [a flyer is attached containing registration links](#).

These sessions are aimed specifically at parents. If you are a parent and feel you would benefit, please join.



Technology and Shakespeare!

Students in 7A who have been studying Midsummer Night's Dream enjoyed RSC's 'Dream' on 23rd March - a live, shared experience between Royal Shakespeare company actors and online audience members. 'Dream' uses the latest gaming and theatre technology combined with an interactive symphonic soundtrack to produce a performance of virtual avatars in a motion capture space. The movements of the performers drive the virtual avatars of the characters in real time in Epic Games' Unreal Engine. This is the first performance of this kind from the RSC and it was great to be part of it!

Miss Draper

What's On? Clubs and Projects in the Harrogate District for Young People

[Click here and scroll through the booklet of information, projects and activities to see what's on in Harrogate, Ripon and surrounding villages for Young People.](#)

How Can I Help My Child?

Access to phones, social media and the internet means that young people can communicate with others without those caring for them knowing and this can make it difficult when we want to keep them safe.

An online workshop for parents and carers

Facilitated through Zoom by Vicki and Rhiannon from the Marie Collins Foundation