



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

There is no doubt that it has been a challenging week in school. At a time when we should have been concentrating all of our efforts on welcoming our new Year 7 students, celebrating with Year 11 the 'Class of 2021', planning the new curriculum for September and consolidating learning gains from the past few weeks, we have been thrown back into contact tracing and self-isolation mode.

I am incredibly proud of the Team Nidderdale resilience and kindness that has been shown this week. Staff have been involved in thorough and detailed contact tracing, have taught classes in school, offered online live lessons where possible, covered classes for absent colleagues, planned work to go on Teams and supported anxious students. Students in school have accepted the re-introduction of additional safety measures (largely without complaint!) and have adapted to changes in staffing on an almost daily basis. Students working from home have remembered logins and got on with online learning. Families have supported us with really detailed contact tracing information and have supported their children at home and in school to carry on with their learning.

Alongside all of this, the staff team have also now completed the major task of assessing work and submitting grades for the Year 11 GCSE and BTEC qualifications to be awarded in August.

We are continuing to develop our plans for the NiddVenture curriculum and last week Mr Couldwell was on a road trip to collect 12 kayaks and 16 mountain bikes to support the Outdoor Education and Outdoor Learning opportunities we hope to offer from September. We are looking forward to sharing more exciting news about this in the coming weeks.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

Geography Fieldwork 2021

Due to changes to the GCSE assessment of students in both 2020 and 2021, candidates have not been assessed in practical fieldwork, which is often one of the most enjoyed activities of the Geography course.

As a bridging project for Year 11 who have recently completed their assessments, myself and Mr Day invited those students who have either expressed an interest in, or signed up to follow A-Level studies in Geography to complete a local river study. We visited Hebden Beck to investigate whether as a river runs its course, the depth, width and velocity of the river increase and the average size of the river's load decreases. Students learned the techniques at site one to measure all these aspects and then were able to show this knowledge at subsequent sites.

Students showed teamwork and knowledge of how to investigate hypotheses. It was really good to see all the students again and brilliant to see keen Geographers looking to continue their studies.

Mr Connors

Year 8 option choices

All parents of Year 8 students should have received a message regarding the Year 9 curriculum for 2021-22 and the subject choices form to complete. The deadline for completion has been moved to Friday 2.7.2021.

We had hoped to run an assembly for all students to explain the curriculum in more detail, but this has not been possible due to self-isolation instructions. If you need more information before making choices, please do contact school next week.



Accelerated Reader

Year 7 continue to impress with their Accelerated Reader efforts. To date, they have read 791 books between them- equating to 289,678 words read! We have 8 Word Millionaires - Joshua Elston, Molly Gratton, Emily King, Ieuan Parsons, Georgie Apperley, Calen Lock, Jack Lewis and Matthew Fazal.

Jack Butler, Molly Gratton and Ieuan Parsons have all reached Bronze Level and our Silver Level winners are Joshua Elston, Georgie Apperley, Emily King, Aiden Roberts, Jess Savage, Matthew Fazal, Jack Lewis and Calen Lock.

Very well done to all our Accelerated Reader badge winners - keep up the keen reading!

Ms Lester



Asymptomatic Testing – DfE advice:

With only a few weeks of the summer term remaining, it is vital that school staff and students continue to test twice a week until the end of term.

Testing should continue to be a routine part of the week and the [reporting of COVID-19 test results](#) remains essential as we move towards Step 4 and maintain face-to-face education until the end of term.

Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 should follow the [guidance for schools](#) or [colleges](#).

Please remember that all results should be reported twice weekly via the school form and to the NHS. If the test result is positive, please also inform school via telephone 01423711246 during school hours or via email admin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk after 4pm and at weekends.