

Headteacher's Introduction



Dear Parent / Carer

This week we have been proud to make the first use of our Carnegie Mental Health Silver Award logo. Just before Christmas, we learned the fantastic news that we had been successful in our application for this award at Silver level. This award recognises the work that schools do to develop and share good practice to promote awareness of the importance of good mental health. The report on our work ran to many pages and amongst the highlights were praise for our Flourish programme as part of the PSHE curriculum and our commitment to Finish with a Flourish, the school's inclusive practice, the development of a behaviour policy that is based on restorative principles, a focus on kindness and respect. Much of the work we are developing is unique to our community and location, the development of the pastoral and nurturing aspects of our NiddVenture curriculum, which you can read more about in this newsletter were also highlighted for praise.

The last two years have been challenging for so many of us in so many ways. We are proud that the priority and focus we have given to raising awareness and supporting the development of good mental health has been recognised in this award and we will continue to develop our practice in this area to support all members of our school community.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher





Great Readers

Congratulations to Jessica Lamb and Ben Rushworth, both of whom have achieved Word Millionaire status on the Accelerated Reader scheme. Well done to both, brilliant reading!

Ms Lester



SECOND DOSES OF COVID VACCINES FOR 12-15 YEAR OLDS – BRIEFING FOR SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES

We have been asked to share this information with you:

Similar to the delivery of the first doses of the COVID vaccine to 12-15 year olds, the School Age Immunisations Team in Harrogate District Foundation Trust will lead on the school offer for second doses. The team will be in contact with schools to arrange visits and parents will receive communications regarding those as soon as possible.

In addition to the school offer, there is a community offer for 12-15 year olds who are eligible for vaccination. Walk-in vaccination clinics across North Yorkshire are available first or second doses (12 weeks after the first dose). People in this age group who have had COVID-19 recently can get their vaccine 12 weeks after their positive test. The national booking system can also be used to book appointments for 12-15 year olds. More information and links to the national booking system [can be found here](#).

Community clinics that offer vaccinations to 12-15 year olds can be found by following the links below – there are many clinics arranged for the next few weeks. Community clinics are set up by the three Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) that cover North Yorkshire. Click here for [walk-in clinics in the North Yorkshire CCG area](#)

The vaccination programme is in place to help protect children and young people against COVID-19 and stop the spread of the virus within schools, families and the wider community. Vaccinating 12-15 year olds doesn't just protect them – by helping to stop the spread of COVID-19 this winter they will also be protecting vulnerable friends and family of all ages.

Pastoral Pamper Hamper

The Pastoral Team awarded the termly Pastoral Pamper Hamper to Miss H Tufts in December.

We presented it to her in recognition of the amazing work she does with many of our students, in all weathers, up and down the dale. Since starting at Nidderdale in September, she has introduced community project work, a bike maintenance workshop and wellbeing group work to our timetable.

We felt she deserved the Pamper Hamper and a big rest in the holidays!

Thankyou Miss!

Reboot North Yorkshire – recycling your unwanted devices

Reboot North Yorkshire provides recycled IT equipment and internet access to help people across the county stay connected. The scheme takes laptops, smart phones, tablets and iPads no longer needed by their owners and refurbishes them before they're distributed to those in need.

These devices can support people to access vital services, help children do their school work and make sure people of all ages can stay in touch with friends and family.

If you got a technology upgrade for Christmas and have a device that can be donated to Reboot North Yorkshire, you can find your nearest drop off point and more information about the scheme at www.rebootny.co.uk

NiddVenture News

It's been a very positive start to the term on the Niddventure front with many exciting things to report!

Recently, we were delighted to learn that a bid for additional funding led by Mr Couldwell to Knaresborough Rotary Club had been successful. This very generous donation has enabled us to purchase essential outdoor equipment that will allow us to run a huge variety of outdoor activities. This week we very excitedly took delivery of our new watersports kit that is going to enable us to run kayaking and gorge walking sessions in the very near future. It's absolutely amazing for a state school to possess this quality of kit and we're very grateful to Knaresborough Rotary Club for their support of our pioneering ideas.

This week has also seen the launch of our Niddventure applied subject specialist trips. The idea behind these sessions is to integrate Niddventure and outdoor learning into all subjects to enhance the mainstream curriculum and explore new ways of learning. The first subject to embark on this project is Geography. Mr Day and Mr Couldwell had a glorious sunny day with 12 students, comparing and contrasting the sandstone environment of Brimham Rocks and the limestone setting of Trollers Ghyll.

The students also combined their geology studies with the opportunity to learn some rock climbing and bouldering skills. We're very excited about the many possibilities there are for applying Niddventure and the outdoors to all the other subjects over the coming year...!

We've also done a huge amount of community work over the last few weeks and our new school bikes have covered many miles delivering prescriptions and groceries to the elderly and vulnerable. One hugely beneficial task we have taken on this term is taking a virtually blind 92 year old lady for a regular walk. She no longer has the confidence to cross roads by herself or walk on uneven surfaces and is therefore virtually housebound. Her face as one of our Year 8 students so kindly and gently guided her was a picture of absolute joy and gratefulness and the highlight of my week. I continue to be amazed by the empathy, maturity and genuine compassion that this sort of work brings out in our young people and it's an absolute privilege to witness. Thank you to all students who embrace this work with such positivity. You are making such a difference!

Miss Tuffs

