

## Community Newsletter - 22nd July 2022

### Working Together to Improve Standards and Share Success

#### Consilium Photography Winner!

We start with some fabulous news to celebrate this week. Several of our students entered the trust's photography competition this half term; there were some fabulous shots! We are delighted that so many of our students demonstrated the **pride** and **ambition** to showcase their work. We were thrilled when Josh O, in Year 10, was announced as the trust wide winner this week. His winning photograph is pictured below. Mrs Robbins was delighted Josh's shot even captured imagery of our rainbow of school values! Josh framed his picture which now has pride of place in Mrs Robbins' office. We are hoping to have a print enlarged to display on the wall of the canteen to celebrate and share Josh's fantastic achievement. Well done, Josh! We hope you enjoy spending your £50 Amazon voucher.



#### Year 6 transition

We have our largest Year 7 cohort in years starting with us in September. It is testament to the strides we have made this year that our school has made such progress towards becoming the school of choice in the local community again. All 163 of our class of 2027 visited us for three days last week. The year group spent time in lessons familiarising themselves with our expectations and routines, bought food in our canteen and by Day 3 independently navigated their way around the school. They were also lucky enough to work with a professional illustrator, Liz Million, during a specially organised workshop and receive a free book to read at home over the Summer. A special mention to our Year 9 peer mentors who supported our new cohort superbly throughout the three days, showing great **responsibility** and care to nurture younger peers. We cannot wait to welcome our new cohort in September.



## Safeguarding/Health and Safety Update

As discussed in our last bulletin, we completed a lockdown practice on Thursday should the need ever arise for us to evacuate within the school building. Our staff and students were amazing, showing tremendous care and **respect for one another** and great **responsibility**. All stakeholders adhered to guidelines explained, which enabled us to evaluate aspects of the practice which went well and tweaks we need to make moving forward. We will be executing another drill in the first term of the new academic year.

## Uniform

Mr Abraham sent a letter to all parents/carers on Thursday regarding our uniform expectations in September. Three additional points of note to clarify some queries we have had:

- There is no need for Year 8-11 students to buy new uniform. This includes PE kit.
- The Year 7 PE kit is the new Consilium cost efficient non-branded kit in blue (blue T shirt and shorts). Any Year 8-11 students replacing PE kit should still buy red T shirts and black shorts. These can be plain items; they do not need to have the school logo.
- We have listened to parent feedback regarding clip-on ties. Year 7 students will have a 'proper' knotted tie. Year 8-11 students can buy these too, but this is not compulsory. I know many parents/carers are as frustrated as we are by some students who find it amusing to pull off the clip-on ties of others. Knotted ties will prevent this. In addition, any student seen pulling the tie of another student in September will be sanctioned with a day in isolation to reflect on the silliness of the action. This will hopefully eradicate the problem we have had with a small minority of students in Year 8 particularly.

## Books for our Library



We would be grateful if as many of you as possible could complete the link below.

[WIN £1,000/€1,000 to help your school rebuild their library \(nationalbooktokens.com\)](https://www.nationalbooktokens.com)

It is a very quick and simple form that will take literally 60 seconds. Ms Hurworth works with the Doncaster library service to replenish our loaned books each Summer, but we are always looking for as many ways as possible to increase our number of books to encourage our students to read for pleasure. In addition to completing the link above, if you have any used books at home that you are donating to charity, then please consider donating to school; we welcome both fact and fiction. Thank you.

## ParentPay Accounts

Please can parents ensure any food accounts that are in debt are paid ideally by the end of this week but certainly before we return after the Summer break. From September, the catering team cannot operate a deficit budget, therefore any students in debt will need to bring food from home. The same mentality needs to exist to buying food from the canteen as it does to buying food from a local shop. If your circumstances have changed recently, and you feel your child might be entitled to free school meals, there is an eligibility checker on our school website (parents' section – free school meals). Use this link (<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>) to apply or speak to us on enrolment day if you have any queries.

## Kids Eat Free over Summer



The aftermath of the pandemic continues to hit everyone hard, particularly as the cost of living continues to rise. We know Summer can be a challenging time for families when growing children need three meals a day at home. Please see offers available nationally to support families over the course of the Summer break.



## Water Safety

With the recent heatwave and Summer approaching we have been discussing water safety with our students in Values lessons. Please reinforce key messages, for children of all ages from the fire and rescue service:

- You should never jump, dive or 'cannonball' into open bodies of water such as lakes and quarries – you don't know what's underneath the surface and could end up suffering from cold water shock
- Cold water shock is where the sudden change in temperature, from being in warm weather to cold water (even in summer open water can be extremely cold), causes your body to shut down and stops even strong swimmers
- You should only swim where its safe and legal – the swimming baths, outdoor lidos and other sites where lifeguards are present
- Don't give in to peer pressure from your friends to jump into the unknown, and never swim after having consumed alcohol
- Should you get into trouble in the water you should float to live – try to stay calm and just focus your energy on floating and shouting for help – until support arrives

## Thank you

Finally, a heartfelt thank you. It is easy to forget in the midst of the recent heatwave that this year has seen many challenges for us all. The dreaded C\*\*\*\* word has still not gone away, but we have learnt to live and adapt in a new world. This is the first time students have been at school for a full academic year in nearly three years. Everyone is tired.

We have made some fabulous progress together as a school community this year. We have much planned for September, which you will be informed about on Enrolment Day. Now however is a time for us to all rest, relax and enjoy precious time with friends and family. Thank you for your support throughout the academic year. We look forward to working collaboratively with all our families once again in when we return for Enrolment Day on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Take care and have a great Summer!

