



## Newsletter 03: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022

### Working Together to Improve Standards and Share Success

#### News from this Week

##### Year 11 Study Skills

Thank you to all families who attended the Year 11 Study Skills and Next Step Careers event on Wednesday evening. It was great to see so many parents keen to support with revision at home – thank you. To help support your child with the ‘learn, retrieve, apply’ method explained, we will share each week (with Year 11 parents) the slides displayed in the canteen with key English quotations to memorise.

It was also pleasing to see our learners engaging pro-actively with post-16 providers. As part of the follow-up, New College will be doing an assembly with all students and Mr Petrie will be organising 1:1 careers appointments soon.

##### Attendance

We have spoken a lot about the impact of attendance on progress; children need to be at school to learn. We are aware there has been some serious genuine illness in the community this week, we are deeply concerned about the decline in attendance since week 1, which is over 4%. We need to improve this together.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
7	98.4	94.8	94.4	94.8
8	96.3	94	92	91.9
9	90.4	89.5	87.3	84.7
10	96.6	90	87.3	87.5
11	91.3	92.3	91.3	90.8
<b>Weekly Total</b>	94.3	92.3	90.7	90.2
<b>Attendance YTD</b>	94.3	92.9	92.3	91.8

We are already ringing identified Year 11 students at 7:30 each morning and knocking on doors. We track individual attendance very closely. Whilst we do not have endless capacity, we will be visiting families where further non-attendance arises this week where attendance is already below 90%. This will not be accepted at Armthorpe.

Thank you to parents/carers who are working with us. Students with attendance 95% or above will be rewarded this half term.

**Just a reminder that under Section 7 of the Education Act (1996), parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure regular attendance at school.** Attendance of 90% or below is deemed to be persistent absence. 95% attendance is only satisfactory. If your child has attendance of 95% or below by October half term, then intervention processes will be initiated.

##### Extra-Curricular Activities

Our enrichment programme is now in full swing. It was great to see students enjoying music activities this week. A special well done to Year 11. Our tracker shows over 90% of the year group have attended some form of enrichment since we have returned. Due to Open Evening, there will be no enrichment on Thursday next week.

## Upcoming Events

### Open Evening

Our Year 5 and 6 **Open Evening** takes place on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October**. As always, we will be looking for as many of our students as possible to join our staff body to welcome new families and share and highlight all our school has to offer. We are particularly keen for Year 7 and 8 students to represent the school as Guides on the evening, so they can share their transition experience with new families. I will be speaking with all students on Monday. If your son/daughter wants to help as a Guide or work with staff within a department, they will need to be in school in full uniform at 4pm. The evening concludes at 7pm. For safeguarding purposes, please complete the consent form below to enable participation on the evening.

<https://forms.office.com/r/fUH8gSgkXq>

### George Fouche – ‘Dream Big’ Aspirational Talk

Former South African international rugby player, George Fouche, will be in school on Friday to speak to Year 10 and 11 students about his inspirational journey to overcome personal adversity to aspire for more. George’s ‘Dare to Aspire’ story is a real-life journey that epitomizes the success that can be achieved in life if our school values are intrinsic within our young people.

## Community Collaboration

### Doncaster Kicks

Regular football sessions are now back up and running on the school’s Astroturf on a Monday evening through Doncaster Kicks. The sessions are free and run from 6-7pm; children simply need to register with the coaches on arrival.

## Departmental Spotlight

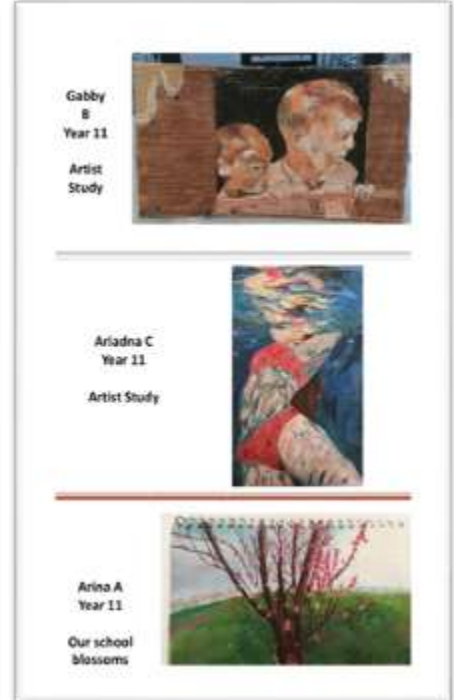
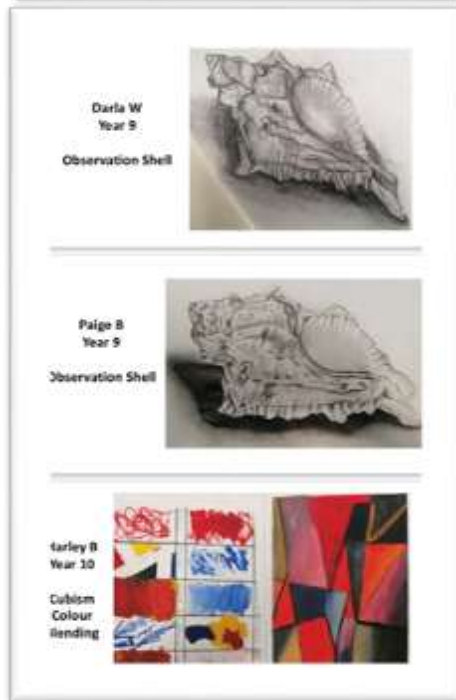
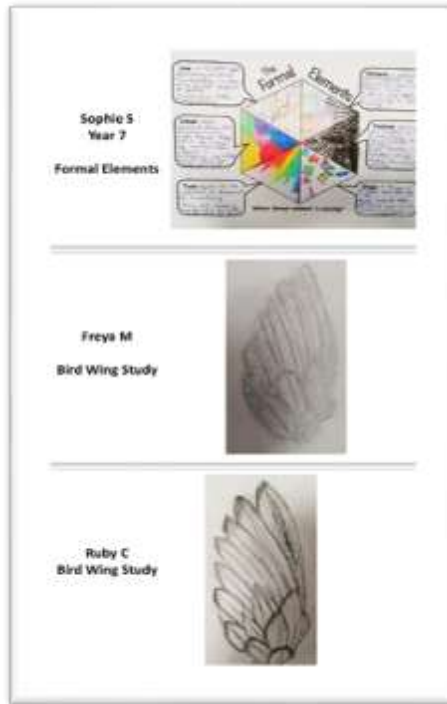
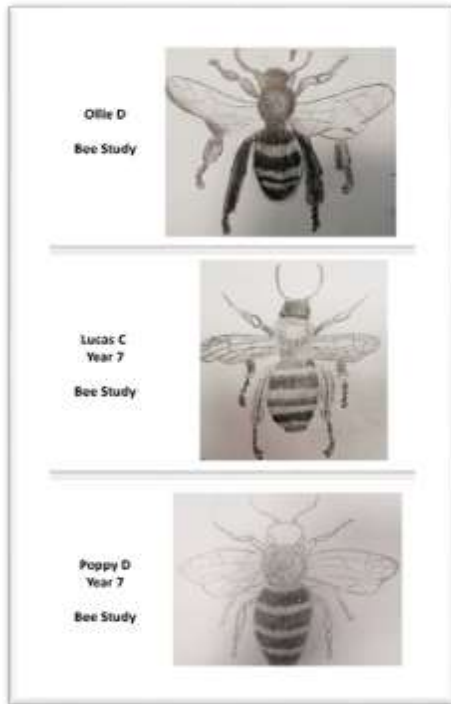
This week our departmental spotlight is on Art and Design. Our art department is led by Mrs Robinson who is ably supported by Mrs Kendall. All students study art in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9); art and photography are both popular GCSE option choices in Key Stage 4.

Our curriculum is sequenced to ensure each formal element is revisited and built upon multiple times in Key Stage 3. For example, the technical proficiency of painting starts with colour theory which is taught in the ‘Insects’ project in Year 7. It is then built on again in the ‘Scapes’ project later in the year focusing on layering colour and depth. In Year 8, the students build skills further using acrylic paint to recreate the work of Joel Penkman – a photo realistic painter. This element is revisited and further enhanced in Year 9 when during the ‘Surroundings’ project; students layer landscapes. We call this a spiralled curriculum. Our five year curriculum journey shows how all elements of the art national curriculum are spiralled throughout the curriculum, along with artist research, to gradually build and progress skills to enable students to know and remember more. If you have any questions about our art curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Hanquinioux.



## Sharing and Celebrating Success

Our rainbow standard of excellence comes from art this week. Well done to all students whose work has been recognised and showcased. Follow us on Twitter @ArmthopeDN3 to see further student work ...



Have a restful and enjoyable weekend.  
Kind regards

  
Claire Robbins  
Executive Headteacher