



**Friday 13th May 2022**

Dear Parents / Carers,

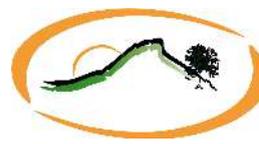
Next week exams begin in earnest for our Y11 and Y13 and we find ourselves with only two weeks left of what is always a whirlwind half term. Taking formal external exams is a first for our Y13 students after their Y11 exams were replaced with centre assessed grades during the pandemic, but they are rising to the challenge really well, as are our Y11s.

For the rest of our students, we are planning in earnest for the summer term which is always a fantastic mix of continued learning and opportunities for personal development. We have already made significant headway in our arrangements for sports day and for additional enrichment events which we will update you about in due course.

### Quick Read

- We are introducing the Thrive Approach in school which uses extensive research to impact positively on the social, emotional and mental health of the students in our care.
- The directive for schools to immediately provide remote learning for students affected by covid that was in place during the pandemic has now ended. We will now only provide virtual learning on a case-by-case basis in special circumstances.
- Y12 recently visited a UCAS discovery event with over 80 stands from higher education providers. It certainly got them thinking about their next steps!
- Y8 will soon be choosing their personalised options to study in Y9; look out for more information soon.
- A letter will be arriving in the next few days for any Y11 students who have applied to our sixth form, with information about next steps and the finalised subject option blocks.
- We would like to give a reminder that Y13 should still be attending all lessons until 27th May and all form times on a Wednesday to Friday. During this time, we will provide vital support for their exams and their next steps.
- There's a reminder below about the information and support for Y13 and Y11 during exam season, as well as a reminder of a letter Mrs Darbyshire recently sent out.
- Our student leadership body continues to thrive, and new roles are in the process of being appointed, including our new Head Boy/Girl and Deputy Head Boy/Girl.
- This year we are offering an exciting opportunity for parents of any Y6 students who are anxious about joining secondary school in September, The Wellbeing in Mind Team and our SENDCo, Mrs McGreal, will be running an online session full of tips and advice. See below for more information.
- Finally, we have a 'sporting roundup' containing a number of stories about students' successes! Please do let us know about any more.
- As always, there's dates for your diary at the end.





## **Longer Read**

### **Thrive**

This term, we have introduced the Thrive Approach to our setting. Thrive draws on the latest research in brain science, child development theory and attachment theory in order to develop relationships between young people and the adults around them. Thrive is designed to support all adults interacting with young people with strategies to provide the best experiences for the young person at each stage of their development. We are excited to explore the Thrive Approach and we are looking forward to seeing it have a positive impact on the social, emotional and mental health of the students in our care. If you would like to find out more about the Thrive Approach, there is more information on the Thrive website, [thriveapproach.com](http://thriveapproach.com).

### **Remote learning**

The directive from the Department for Education to provide immediate remote provision for students affected by covid has now expired. As a rule, we will no longer provide live lessons for students who are absent from school - it is vitally important that students attend school whenever possible. In extreme circumstances, where illness or injury prevents attendance at school, we will consider on a case-by-case basis whether virtual attendance to lessons is appropriate.

### **Y12 UCAS discovery day**

We recently took all of our Y12 students to Teesside University for a UCAS discovery day. At this event there were over 80 stands from universities and other higher education providers available for our students to speak to and find out more prior to making their choices next year. The students found the event really useful and it certainly will help some form ideas for next steps, but probably gave some of them more things to think about and more dilemmas!

### **Y8 into 9 personalised options**

The process for Y8 students to choose their personalised options will begin next week. Look out for a letter from Mr McGreal, Senior Assistant Headteacher, detailing what the students need to do. We also have a website with further information that will be shared soon.

### **Y11 applications to sixth form**

All students who have applied to our sixth form will receive a letter within the next few days informing them of the next steps in the application process, and that includes our final Y12 subject option blocks for next year put together based upon their applications. The dates for





our sixth form induction days, information about signing up on GCSE results day and the start of the new term are also in the letter. It isn't too late to apply if your child hasn't already, just email Mr McGreal at [r.mcgregal@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:r.mcgregal@stokesleyschool.org).

## Y13 attendance

A reminder that Y13 students are still expected to attend all lessons and 5th periods up to lunchtime on Friday 27th May, as well as tutor time each day from Wednesday to Friday. On Monday and Tuesday students are still expected to be in by 9:15am, unless they have a scheduled meeting with their tutor during tutor time that is arranged for an earlier time. There are plenty of spaces that students can use to work quietly in the sixth form building, as well as the LIFE Hub in our old reception area at the front of school.

## Y13

Students in Y13 have all the information and support they need for their examinations but should you have any queries, please contact your child's tutor or Head of Year.

## Y11 Key Updates

Mrs Darbyshire wrote to parents/carers of Y11 last week with updates on key information including examinations, phased dismissal and the prom, which can be found by following this link: <https://www.stokesleyschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Key-Updates-April-2022.pdf>.

To assist students in their preparation for the coming exam session, tutor time has been dedicated to special assemblies, pastoral support, examinations preparation and revision support. Students in Y11 have all the information and support they need, but should you have any queries, please contact your child's tutor or Mr Wilson, Head of Year on [n.wilson@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:n.wilson@stokesleyschool.org), Mrs Darby, Exams Officer on [d.darby@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:d.darby@stokesleyschool.org) or Mrs Darbyshire, Deputy Headteacher, on [j.darbyshire@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:j.darbyshire@stokesleyschool.org).

## Student Leadership

Over the last two years, our student leadership body has grown from strength to strength. Mrs Darbyshire now has 121 student leaders who meet three times each half term. Throughout this year, as well as organising charity fundraising events and other projects, they have been looking at developing the roles and responsibilities of student leaders. Through this, they have incorporated new roles of prefect and senior prefect to complement the roles of Senior Student Leaders (Head Girl/Boy and Deputy Head Girl/Boy). We were thrilled to have over 60 applications for these posts. Interviews have taken place for our new Head Girl and Boy and their deputies. The successful candidates are: Daisy Ruffell (Head Girl); Jonathan Ricahrdson (Head Boy) pictured below with Mrs Millett and Wlif Lancaster-Vall (deputy Head Boy) and Aoife Dunkley (Deputy Head Girl).





We have also completed our interviews for our Y9 and 10 applicants, Y12 will take place next week and Y11 straight after their examinations. The range of duties will include representing our student body at school and community functions, whole school events including Sports Day and the school shows, supporting roles at school clubs and at social time alongside the opportunity to support younger students with academic activities.

### Enhanced Transition - Y6 parent opportunity

We are pleased to be able to offer a range of transition activities this summer term for those students joining us in year 7 this September. The Wellbeing in Mind Team and our SENDCO, Mrs McGreal, are - this year - offering an online session for parents which will focus on supporting your child if they are feeling anxious around the transition from primary to secondary school. If you have a child joining us this year, and you would like to attend the online session, please email [sen@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:sen@stokesleyschool.org) with your contact details and the name of your child and we will book you a place. The session will take place from 5pm - 6pm on Wednesday, 6th July, via Teams.

### Sporting RoundUp!

We have so many wonderful sportspeople within our school, here's a roundup of our students' latest sporting successes!

Congratulations to Goodness in Y9 who plays for Grangetown Netball Club U14s, the team finished in 3rd place at the England Youth Netball Premier League Grand Finals which were held in Essex on Sunday 8th May. What a brilliant achievement for the whole team, well done!





There were some fantastic individual performances at the Area athletics trials at Middlesbrough Sports Village! The official results are to follow but many personal bests were achieved and exemplary behaviour and attitude was displayed by all. Well done team Stokesley!

Over the Easter break, Year 11 student Isabel was racing in the Youth Tour of Scotland, the first multi day national race of 2022. She rode strongly over the five stages, taking 3rd in the prologue time trial and winning the most hill primes to take the QOM jersey (overall queen of the mountains classification). Her season continues with the Isle of Man Youth Tour at the end of the month and we wish her the very best of luck!



Congratulations to Lana in Year 8 who has recently passed the National Grade 2 in women's artistic gymnastics (regional competition) and she made it through to the National finals which will be held in Stoke-on-Trent in June. Well done Lana and we all wish you the very best of luck!

Congratulations to Y10 student Jamie who completed his karate assessment over the Easter break and managed to move up 3 grades to a Green belt! Not only has Jamie been training hard, but he's also been mentoring two other karate students and helped them to improve their grades too. Well done Jamie, keep up the good work!



Well done to Sophie in Year 7 who plays for Grangetown Netball Club U12s, the team took part in the Sisters N Sport and became the U12s Plate winners in the national competition!



## Dates for your diary

Week commencing 16 May

Monday 16 / Tuesday 17 May

Wednesday 18 May

Thursday 26 May

Friday 27 May

Y11 and Y13 PRP reports sent home.

GCSE / A level exams begin

Y12 Geography field trip

Theatre Trip to see Steven Berkoff (pm)

"A Night at the Musicals" - 7 - 9pm.

School breaks up for Half Term.

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Yours faithfully,

**Mrs H. L. Millett**  
Headteacher

