



**Friday 27th May 2022**

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we move into the half term break and jubilee celebrations, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued support and wish you a restful bank holiday, whatever you are doing.

### **Quick Read**

- Y7 have recently experienced a presentation from the RNLI on water safety.
- We have over 40 extra-curricular clubs on offer in school, with 50% of our children attending at least one a week. We're planning for next year, so if your child has ideas for a club they'd like to see up and running, please get in touch.
- We are working with Stokesley Rotary again this year to host our community event 'Celebration of Youth'. Save the date: Saturday 25th June.
- Our attendance continues to improve as we move out of the pandemic. We know it is difficult not receiving regular information about ambition points and negatives whilst we move to our new software package, but we provide an update on the picture of sanctions and rewards in the school below.
- Our students have been educated in school on the dangers of vaping. We are taking a zero tolerance approach to the possession of vapes and vaping in school; we know you will support us in this endeavour.
- The deadline for choosing Y8 into 9 options is today! Students have the option of entering choices on a google form due to issues with the SIMS website.
- Y11 attendance has been exceptional across the first two weeks of the exams, and they have benefitted from being with teachers at key points in the lead-up to the exams.
- Y13 exams are fully underway now. There is a reminder in this letter regarding how to get more support if you or your child needs it.
- Student leaders are putting together information to share with you about what they have been doing this year, and they are also planning a fundraising activity with Mrs Darbyshire and Mr Hamer.
- Last night, Mrs Kent led a wonderful event in our community 'A Night at the Musicals' to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal and our school production.
- We have recently celebrated our Y7 and Y8 success in their accelerated reader programme. One student in Y7 scooped up 4 awards!

### **Longer Read**

#### **RNLI visit**

Year 7 were recently treated to a presentation about water safety from two volunteers from the RNLI. The presentation included some vital messages for young people. Students were taught about how to look after themselves and other people near water, and about what to do if they find themselves or see someone in trouble. They also had a good laugh watching





Mrs Fox try to get into a lifeguard's outfit in the 30 seconds a lifeguard can get into it in... she didn't quite succeed, but it was close!

Both volunteers went out of their way to comment on the enthusiasm, engagement and good behaviour of our students and are keen to come back into the school to work with other students in the years to come.

### Clubs update

As a school we're really proud of our extra-curricular offer. With over 40 clubs on offer, lunchtimes and the hour after school are a hive of activity, with students in all year groups doing everything from dance to debating! Over 50% of our students attend one club each on a weekly basis, and we have some individual students who attend 5 clubs or more! Thank you so much for your support in encouraging them to attend.

It's that time of year where we start to look at what we are going to offer in terms of extra-curricular activities for the next academic year, so we thought this would be a good time for you and your children to have a think about whether there were any additional clubs that they would like to see running. If you or your child has any ideas, please do get in touch with Mrs Fox ([l.fox@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:l.fox@stokesleyschool.org)) and we'll do everything we can to make it happen.

### Community events: 'Celebration of Youth'

Our annual event 'Celebration of Youth' is going ahead this year. We are once again working in partnership with Stokesley Rotary to celebrate the achievements of our young people in the community. We would like to make this year bigger and better than ever and would like to get everyone involved.

We have secured some great sponsorship and are really excited to show off how great our students are. We would love to see as many parents there as possible, so save the date: Saturday 25th June 2022.

If you would like to be directly involved, please contact Mrs Brosnan, Head of Y10 ([d.brosnan@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:d.brosnan@stokesleyschool.org)).

### Behaviour and attendance

We have been delighted with the improving whole school attendance picture as we move on from the significant impact of Covid-19. Our students have attended school in greater numbers than our local schools and our figures are way above the national average. Attendance at school will only improve outcomes for our children, as well as choices and opportunities for the rest of their lives.





We, like you, are frustrated that communicating positive and negative behaviours continues to be difficult whilst we are moving towards Class Charts in September. To date, students have earned 119,614 ambition points this school year, which is 105 on average per student. In terms of negative behaviour, 46,450 behaviour points have been given to students this year, an average of 41 per student. The largest proportion of negative behaviour entries are for students not completing independent work. Completing work outside of the classroom is not only important for students to develop a deeper understanding of the subject, but it also develops important skills like time management and independence, hence the reason we call homework 'independent work'. Thank you for your continued support in setting high standards for our fantastic young people.

### Zero tolerance - vapes and vaping

In November we showed all our students a very well produced and informative video about the unknown dangers of vaping and the concerns around using them. Unfortunately, a significant number of children and teenagers in the UK are vaping on a daily basis and this includes a small number of students in our school community. This week we have informed students that we are adopting a zero tolerance approach to the possession of vapes and vaping in school.

Vapes are listed as a banned item in our behaviour policy. We have informed students that they will be suspended from school for possession of such items and know that you will support us in this as part of reinforcing the dangers of this habit.

### Y8 into Y9 options

Information was shared with parents at the start of the week about Y8 into 9 personalised options, the deadline for choices to be entered is Friday 27th May (today!). There have been a few issues with the SIMS website so a google form has been shared with the students to enter their choices should the website still not work. If you have any problems please contact Mr McGreal ([r.mcgreall@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:r.mcgreall@stokesleyschool.org)).

### Y11 phased dismissal update

Public examinations have been running for the last two weeks. Y11 attendance at school has been brilliant, with 96.2% of our students having 100% attendance for the last two weeks. Students have engaged with the booster and support sessions well. Students have also expressed how helpful it has been to meet with their teachers at key times - and each morning - to have the opportunity to ask last minute questions or just receive some pastoral support for nerves. This will continue after half term, as per Mrs Darbyshire's [last key update letter](#). If you have any queries, please get in touch Mr Wilson, Head of Year 11 ([n.wilson@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:n.wilson@stokesleyschool.org)) or your child's tutor.





*Y11 gaining some last-minute support ahead of their exams*

## Y13 public examinations

AS exams took place last week with A level examinations beginning in earnest this week. Student support is available each day. Please contact Mrs Jeal, Head of Y12 and 13 ([j.jeal@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:j.jeal@stokesleyschool.org)) or your child's tutor if there is anything you need.

If you have a query related specifically to an exam, please contact our Exam's Officer, Mrs Darby ([d.darby@stokesleyschool.org](mailto:d.darby@stokesleyschool.org))

## Student Leader Update

Student Leaders are currently in the process of creating news articles to update you about their work across the year. Two of the upcoming projects are our Wateraid Appeal and Climb High Challenge with Mrs Darbyshire and Mr Hamer. Y7 students and student leaders will be walking three miles around Captain Cook's monument and Roseberry Topping to raise funds for our Place for Peace Garden. More details will come directly to parents/carers during the first week after half term.

## 'A Night at the Musicals'

Last night, Mrs Kent, Head of Drama, and a number of students presented an evening of musical celebration at Stokesley Parish church. It was a wonderful evening for all and all of the funds raised from the event will be split between the Ukraine Charity Appeal and go towards our production of 'We Will Rock You'.





## Accelerated Reader success



At our recent Accelerated Reader celebration assemblies, students were rewarded for a range of achievements in reading. One Year 7 student, Kai, received four awards as he has gone above and beyond with his reading. Not only has he achieved 'millionaire' status, meaning that he has read over one million words, he has actually read over 4 million words, nearly 2 million more than the second millionaire student! A huge well done Kai!

## Dates for your diary

Wednesday 15 June  
Wed 22 / Thurs 23 June  
Monday 27 June  
Tuesday 28 June  
Tuesday 28 June  
Friday 1 July  
Monday 4 July  
Monday 4 July  
Monday 4 July  
Friday 8 July  
Monday 11 July  
Wed 13 - Friday 15 July  
Friday 15 July  
Saturday 16 July  
Tues 19/ Wed 20 / Thurs 21 July  
Friday 22 July

Y12 parents' evening  
Y12 Geography Fieldwork trip  
Y10 Mock Interview day  
Y10 Mock Interview day  
Y8 Geography trip to York  
Y8 Geography trip to York  
Y12 Work Experience week.  
Y7, Y8 and Y9 PRP reports sent home this week  
Y13 Prom  
A level Biology field trip  
Y11 Prom  
Y6 Transition days  
Uniform sizing event 3.30 - 6.30pm  
Uniform sizing event 9.00am - 2.00pm  
"We Will Rock You" performances 7.00 - 10.00pm  
School finishes for students at 12.35pm

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Yours faithfully,

**Mrs H. L. Millett**

Headteacher

