# **HEADTEACHER'S**

## **UPDATE**



#### Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

#### Quick read

- On Thursday 2nd March we enjoyed celebrating World Book Day with a range of activities.
- This week has been National Careers week and, as well as focusing on careers in their LIFE lessons, students have been thinking about careers linked to each of their subjects in Brain in Gear activities.
- Thanks to all of the Y7 and 8 students who took part in the Readathon earlier this term raising money for the Read for Good Charity.
- Please see our safeguarding updates about Operation Encompass and Virgin Media's online safety test.
- On Thursday this week, Y11 received their mock results.
- Over 50 Y11 students attended English and maths revision sessions last week!
- On Thursday 9th March, Stokesley School entered a team of four into the 'Maths Feast' competition held at Teesside University spoiler alert, we won!
- One of our students is in the top 100 for 'mathletics' an international competition with over one million participants.
- Due to our change in supplier and the rising cost of materials, ties bought via student services are changing in price.

#### Longer read

#### **World Book Day**

On Thursday 2nd March we enjoyed celebrating World Book Day with a range of activities. In tutor time, students took part in 'The Masked Reader' competition, where they watched video clips of staff members reading extracts from books whilst in disguise. They had fun trying to guess who the readers were as well as identifying the book titles and authors.

At the start of each lesson across the day, teachers read part of a short ghost story called *Let Me Sleep* aloud to students, so that by the end of the day the whole story had been read. This spooky story proved popular with students and staff alike.

A group of Y7 students took part in an online quiz on the themes of football and reading. They competed against other schools from around the country and had lots of fun.

The OLC was a hive of activity at break and lunch. It was a chromebook-free zone, meaning students enjoyed relaxing with books/magazines or taking part in one of the book-themed activities on offer. These included an emoji book quiz, guess who's coming to dinner game, bookmark making, word searches and crosswords.



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All students have been emailed a voucher entitling them to a World Book Day book free of charge or £1 off the cost of any other book. This has come through to their school email account and can be accessed on a mobile phone in any bookshop.

#### **National Careers Week**

This week has been National Careers week and, as well as focusing on careers in their LIFE lessons, students have been thinking about careers linked to each of their subjects in Brain in Gear activities. Students have also been treated to careers assemblies from a range of different providers over the course of the week, and it's been great to see and hear their engagement with careers and career pathways. There have also been links posted in the careers google classrooms throughout the week, including links to webinars and courses that might interest students.

Students have also been invited by a number of colleges to taster events, the first of which was held on Thursday 9th March by Middlesbrough College and focused on sports, travel/aviation and public services courses that are on offer locally. The students had a fantastic experience on the day and were involved in a range of activities including a murder mystery run by the Criminology department!

This is a good opportunity, too, to remind you that all students have access to our careers platform: <a href="UNIFROG">UNIFROG</a> is a great platform which supports students with the whole progression process - from exploring their interests, to recording the great things they've done, to finding education and training opportunities, to drafting their applications. Students can access UNIFROG on their chromebook or on their mobile phone. It's an incredibly easy-to-use resource, and contains a wealth of information about careers on offer, linking them to students' interests and strengths.

If you are interested in the platform, a great thing to do would be to sit down with your child and have a look through it. We tend to find that they're reluctant to use it for the first time because it's something new, but that once they get into it they go back to it again and again as a useful careers resource. You can use the link above, or simply type UNIFROG into a search engine on your phone or computer.

#### Readathon

Thanks to all of the Y7 and 8 students who took part in the Readathon earlier this term. We have raised £50 for the Read for Good Charity so far who provide books and storytellers for children in hospitals and hospices around the country. If you still have sponsorship money to donate you can do this here.



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#### Safeguarding updates

Operation Encompass is a police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership enabling support for children and young people who are experiencing domestic abuse.

Please <u>click here</u> for further information.

Virgin Media experts have created an internet safety test to help build awareness for parents and children of all ages to ensure they are better protected online. Follow this link to access top tips and the online safety test.

#### Y11 Mock Results Day

On Thursday this week, Mrs Darbyshire and Mrs Brosnan took the Y11 Mock Results Day assembly. Students were given an overview of what to expect and what steps to take. Students were eager to receive their results to see if their hard work had paid off!

#### **Maths and English revision sessions**

This is a reminder that, in addition to the revision and intervention schedule which we shared with Y11 parents prior to half term, on Wednesday after school, English and mathematics revision sessions are also taking place. Mr Simpson and Mr Alcock were thrilled that we had over 50 students in attendance last week. Please ask your child to speak with their teacher if they would like to take advantage of these sessions.

#### **Maths Feast**

On Thursday 9th March, Stokesley School entered a team of four into the 'Maths Feast' competition held at Teesside University run by AMSP the government funded Advanced Mathematics Support Programme). 19 secondary schools from across the area took part and we are delighted to announce that Stokesley School achieved first place beating some exceptionally strong competition. We are so proud of the teamwork and mathematical ability that our students showed throughout.

#### **Mathletics - World Maths Day**

Mathletics - World Maths Day is an international competition with over a million young people competing. We are thrilled that one of our students is currently in the top 100 in the world! Watch out for our social media update to let you know the final result.



# AMBITIOUS. RESPECTFUL. READY.

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#### **Cost of ties**

Due to rising costs of materials, our school ties are going up from £5.50 to £6.29. If you send your child to school with money to buy one from student services, please ensure they have the right amount with them.

#### **Dates for your diary**

Monday 13th March - Y12 parents' evening 3.30 - 6.30pm

Monday 20th March - Y11 targeted parents' evening 3.30 - 6.30pm

Tuesday 28th March - Y10 parents' evening 3.30- 6.30pm
Friday 31st March - End of term (school finishes 2.15pm)
Monday 17th April - Students and staff return to school.

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Yours faithfully,

Mrs H. L. Millett

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Headteacher