



3rd February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that this letter finds you well. I love writing letters like this, as they're all about celebrating the wonderful things that our students - your kids - are achieving.

With not too long to go until the next round of House Assemblies, I wanted to get in touch with you to let you know about some of the rewards that students can apply for to recognise the brilliant stuff that they do both in and out of school so that you can support them - if they are the sort that need a bit of a nudge - in their applications!

Students have had this information themselves and, in the case of House Ties and Half Colours, need to apply themselves. But I think it's nice for you as parents/carers to know what we're doing, and to encourage them to apply. Sometimes young people just need someone else to remind them that they're awesome for them to believe they're worthy of applying.

Pin badges

We love seeing students wearing our extra-curricular pin badges in school and some of them have lots already (sorry if you are the chief blazer-washer at home!). These pin badges came as a request from the students themselves as a way of recognising the way in which so many of them contribute to the life of our school both inside of and outside the classroom. Students can win pin badges for exceptional commitment to different areas of our extra-curricular school life, and there are a total of 11 to collect (with two new ones this year!).

The different coloured badges are shown in a list below, and details for the criteria are on the following page:

Red - sports

Green - sustainability

Purple - arts

Blue - communication

Yellow - excellence

Orange - representing the school

Brown - logic










Sparkly orange - competition winner

White - representing the county



NEW - Union flag - representing the country

NEW - Sparkly purple - community

In the first instance, I like to come to you as parents/carers and those who know your children best, to find out which badges students are eligible to receive. After that, I'll speak to tutors, heads of year and those staff who give up their time to run clubs and activities in school for their nominations too. If you think that your son/daughter is eligible, please send an email with some details (and pictures if possible!) to me at efox@stokesley-alt.uk

Colour	Area of the extra curriculum
	<p>Sports A red pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at a sporting club, or who have contributed significantly to school sports either over the course of the year or at a particular event.</p>
	<p>Communication A blue pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at a communications club, or who contribute significantly to an extra-curricular activity in terms of their ability to work with others.</p>
	<p>Arts A purple pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at an arts club, or who contribute significantly to the performing or creative arts in school either over the year or at a particular event.</p>
	<p>Sustainability A green pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at a club linked to sustainability, or who contribute significantly to sustainability in school either over the year or at a particular event.</p>
	<p>Representing the school An orange pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who represent the school in a competition, event, or in any other way.</p>
	<p>Representing the county A white pin badge will be awarded to students who, in whatever way, represent their county.</p>
	<p>Excellence A yellow pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at a revision or academic club, or who- through their extracurricular activity - achieve something incredible.</p>
	<p>Logic A brown pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have 100% attendance at a logic club, or who contribute significantly in this area over the course of the year or in one particular event.</p>
	<p>Competition winner An orange sparkly pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who win a competition either in school or out of school.</p>



	<p>Representing the country A union flag pin badge will be awarded to students who, in whatever way, represent their country.</p>
	<p>Community A purple sparkly pin badge will be awarded to staff and students who have contributed positively to the community either through school or outside of school.</p>

House Ties

Applications for House Ties and Half Colours are also open, and we've already had about 30 students apply for these. I'm pretty sure, however, that there are more students who are eligible and who we would love to see apply. The criteria for these ties can be found below, and students can apply for these using the applications forms in the hyperlinks at the end of this letter.

House Tie application criteria:

Students must:

- be in year 8 or above
- have at least 500 House Points
- have fewer than 5 negative points
- have attendance of at least 96%*
- have ambition scores on their latest PRP of all 3s and 4s
- take part in extracurricular activities in or out of school
- have entered at least one competition this academic year
- have taken part in (or helped at) a school event
- have contributed positively to the community either in or out of school

Half Colours application criteria:

Students must:

- be in year 9 or above
- have at least 600 House Points
- have fewer than 5 negative points
- have attendance of at least 96%*
- have ambition scores on their latest PRP of all 3s and 4s
- have been a student leader for at least a year
- take part in at least two extracurricular activities in or out of school
- have entered at least two competitions since the start of their time at Stokesley
- have made a contribution to sustainability either inside or outside of school
- have taken part in (or helped at) a school event
- have contributed positively to the community either in or out of school



have taken part in a charity event, or contributed to charity

*I appreciate that, in the case of the medical needs of some students, this attendance figure is not attainable. Please encourage students to apply if this is the case, and this will - of course - be taken into account.

[House Tie application](#) (Year 8 and above)

[Half Colours application](#) (Year 9 and above)

I hope that, like me, you enjoy the conversations that these applications open up with your son/daughter. I look forward to hearing from you about the wonderful things that your children are achieving.

Kindest regards



Mrs L. Fox

Assistant Headteacher, Personal Development

efox@stokesley-alt.uk

