

13th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As this strange term draws to a close, this letter provides a few important updates, but firstly I would like to say congratulations and thank you to all students, staff, governors, parents and carers for the way in which everyone has adapted to this new way of working. As I keep saying, it is a privilege to work with such a supportive, dedicated and resilient team.

This morning, I shared some memories of the last year with staff. If you would like to see these, you can do so by clicking the link below:

<https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/uws-year-review/>

GCSE Results

Year 11 students have received a letter informing them of the arrangements for the issuing of GCSE results on Thursday 20th August, and will receive their individual time allocations within the next couple of days.

It is a real shame that we cannot celebrate in the usual way and ask that all students and parents/carers adhere to social distancing on the day, without remaining at school for any longer than necessary. Many schools are not opening at all and are emailing all results to students, but we feel that it is important to provide this opportunity, as long as safety precautions are in place.

Student Leadership Team

We have a fantastic new Student Leadership Team who are already making plans for the new academic year. I am looking forward to working with them for the benefit of the school and wider community:

Olivia Barnes

Molly Lyons

Harry Peace

Noah Peace

Emma Picton

Izzy Willis

Ruby Winthrop

Fond Farewells.....

Even in normal circumstances, this time of year is often tinged with sadness as we say farewell and thank you to staff who are leaving for pastures new. This is obviously even more difficult this year.

Mrs Hindle has raised the profile of Food Technology in the school and, in doing so, increased the numbers opting for the subject at KS4. However, she soon developed her passion for Special Educational Needs and is leaving us to follow a new career path with this specialism, having worked hard for a number of qualifications in this area. We wish her well in this new venture.

Mr Heslop has a natural talent of bringing out the best in people and brightening their day. He has undoubtedly had a significant impact on some of our most vulnerable students and will be sadly missed. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Mr Heaviside has secured a well-deserved promotion as Head of Year 8 at Beckfoot School. He has also played a vital role in supporting students during times of stress, whilst also providing pastoral advice and guidance to all students. We are sure he will be hugely successful in his new role.

And welcomes.....

I am pleased to say that we have made some excellent appointments to the staff team from September. Mrs Doidge will be joining us as Subject Leader for Food Technology, Miss Maslin is starting as a Learning Support Assistant, and Miss Votsikas will be a Student Support Officer. I very much hope that they will enjoy their new roles and look forward to welcoming them onto the team.

September Arrangements

As per my recent letter, here are some reminders about the school re-opening fully in September, with the following start dates:

Year 7:	Tuesday 8th September
Year 11:	Wednesday 9th September
Years 8, 9, 10:	Thursday 10th September

The risk assessment is well under way, which includes each year group having their own entrance and exit to the building, and designated classrooms for the majority of the curriculum:

Year 7:	Rooms 1, 2 and 4 (entrance and exit by Room 1)
Year 8:	Rooms 5, 6 and 7 (entrance and exit by Room 6)
Year 9:	Rooms 13, 14 and 16 (entrance and exit by Room 16)
Year 10:	Rooms 8, 10 and 12 (entrance and exit by DT)
Year 11:	Rooms 20, 22 and 23 (entrance and exit using North Block and ICT fire door)

Students will be seated side by side and facing forwards in all lessons. It is important that staff maintain social distancing as much as possible, therefore the majority of support given will be from the front of the classroom.

A reminder that all students will need to bring a packed lunch, snacks and a drink, and face coverings must be worn on home to school transport. Students will not be allowed to travel if they refuse to do so.

Break times will be 'staggered' and outside spaces will be 'zoned', enabling year groups to be kept separate. Details of these arrangements will be given to the students on their first day.

I ask that parents and carers do not enter the site at all, other than by a pre-arranged appointment, so that we can ensure rooms and staff are available.

Further details will be provided towards the end of the summer holidays.

Dates for Diaries

20 th August:	GCSE results issued
7 th September:	Training Day
8 th September:	Start of Term – Year 7
9 th September:	Start of Term – Year 11
10 th September:	Start of Term – Years, 8, 9, 10
16 th September:	Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
21 st September:	Year 6 Open Evening
29 th September:	Yea 6 and 7 Open Morning
7 th October:	Year 11 Parents' Evening
8 th October:	Year 6 and 7 Open Afternoon
13 th October:	Year 6 and 7 Open Morning
16 th October:	Deep Learning Day
23 rd October:	Last day of half term

So, at the end of a very hard, yet very productive year, I wish all our students and families a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer holiday. I will look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Taylor
Headteacher