



New School Year

I do hope that you and your family are well and you have had an enjoyable Summer. Having completed the first 2 weeks of school, I would like to update you on how the long awaited start, with fewer covid restrictions has gone. We are all delighted to be able to see each other's faces and it so refreshing to see young adults smile and laugh, given we have been behind face coverings for so long. In a profession which relies so much on effective communication, facial body language has made a welcome return. However, we all accept that covid has not gone away and we thank you all for your continued support in adhering to guidance and remaining safe. We are also aware that we may need to reintroduce face coverings, particularly in communal areas as the weather deteriorates in weeks to come and we don't have the same access to outdoor spaces. We will obviously keep you updated as necessary.

We have welcomed 210 new year 7 and 270 year 12 students in to school and I am delighted to report they have settled very well. I am pleased to see the tradition of buying blazers too big has been upheld, as it is part of the right of passage, of growing into them! As you know, we have very high standards and expect a lot from all our students and I'm pleased to see our new intake upholding our values. Yesterday evening we welcomed our new year 7 parents in to school and there will be a similar event on the 30th of September for our year 12 parents, to find out more about the year ahead. However, please do always contact school if you have any queries or have any observations as to how we could improve – we are always keen to be the best we can.



On Monday just gone, we held our annual entrance exam, for 2022 entry, and again it was gratifying to see we continue to be held in high esteem, with well over 1000 students applying for a place. You won't need me to tell you of the anxieties caused by the exam, but now that your children are here, it is a pleasure to see them making the most of their time in school.

Whilst typically we did not lose any ground academically during the remote learning phases of the last 18 months due to the live teaching provided from the start, we are aware our students have missed out on social events, extra-curricular activities and trips. We are now looking to address these areas as a priority. Indeed, I have spoken to all students in assembly during the last week and offered them the opportunity of setting up their own societies with the promise of some "seed" money should they need it, to get the ball rolling. We have already had many excellent ideas put forward.

Please do continue to take an active interest in your child's time at school and we urge you to regularly review classcharts to see notes from staff and running totals of ethos points awarded. Similarly, the student planner may well contain information of interest and should be regularly reviewed please. Next week, expect to see an increase in homework being set. Our experience suggests that it is very beneficial to students if parents ask about homework and ensure there is a quiet place to work in an evening and weekends.

Thank you once again for your continued support, we couldn't achieve what we do without you. After a tough year, we are hopeful we will be getting a more stable year ahead and look forward to continuing our excellent partnership.

My best wishes to you all.

Peter Roberts

Parent Notices

**Tuesday 21 September 2021
Year 9 Parents' Information Evening**

**Thursday 23 September 2021
Year 13 Parents' Information Evening**

**Friday 24 September 2021
Macmillan Coffee Morning**

**Monday 27 September 2021 - Friday 1 October
Year 7 Residential trip to Bewerley Park**

**Tuesday 28 September 2021
Year 11 Parents' Information Evening**

**Thursday 30 September 2021
Year 12 Parents' Information Evening**

**Tuesday 5 October
Year 10 Parents' Information Evening**

**Thursday 7 October
Year 8 Parents' Information Evening**



26 SEPT 2021

1000 DAYS RUNNING STREAK

You may remember last term that we featured an article regarding the Run Streak challenge undertaken by Deputy Headteacher Mr Tipler who has run at least 1 mile every day since the 1st January 2019. He is quickly approaching his 1000th run so we caught up with him for an update: "Friday 17th September was Run Streak Day 991, and the 1000th run is on Sunday 26th September. I am inviting all students, parents and staff to join me on my 1000th run. For those who are interested, please meet on Sunday 26th September at 10.45am outside the The Butchers Arms in the village of Hepworth, near Holmfirth (Post Code: HD9 1TE). We plan to set off at 11.00am, and there are 3 routes that you can run: 5.3km, 2.7km and the full 8km. Everybody is invited and a small donation to Cancer Research will be appreciated on the day. All runners will receive a free drink for taking part!

I look forward to seeing you there!"

Mr Tipler

HOUSE EVENTS

Autumn 2021

27 Sept & 4 Oct *SENIOR GIRLS NETBALL (Yrs11 - 13)*
Sports Hall - Lunchtime

JUNIOR E-SPORTS (Yrs7&8)
Lunchtime

5 - 7 Oct

8 & 15 Oct *SENIOR BOYS FOOTBALL (Yrs11-13)*
MUGA - Lunchtime

LAUNCH of HOUSE ART. 11 Oct
SENIOR DEBATES (Yrs10-13) - After School

11 & 18 Oct

12 & 19 Oct *INTERNS GIRLS NETBALL (Yrs9 &10)*
Sports Hall - Lunchtime

HOUSE DANCE

14 Oct

Further Information will be shared in house assembly

Department Focus

Resumes this week with ...



MUSIC

REGULAR - EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

2021/22



Music - Regular Extra-Curricular Activities – 2021/22

| Regular Day | Ensemble | Time | Venue | Notes |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mondays | String Group | 12.30 - 1.10pm | Room F102 Music Room | open to all string players |
| Tuesdays | Soul Band | 12.30 - 1.10pm | Room F102 Music Room | See Mr Cole / Miss Sutcliffe for further details |
| Tuesdays | Percussion Group | 3.20 - 4.00pm | Room F102 Music Room | open to all students - everyone welcome! |
| Tuesdays | GCSE Music Support | 3.20 - 4.20pm | Room B105 ICT Music Room | open to GCSE music students for extra help in all GCSE Music work & theory |
| Wednesdays | Junior Choir | 12.30 - 1.10pm | Room F102 Music Room | open to students of all abilities in years 7-9 |
| Wednesdays | Rock and Pop Club | 3.20 - 4.00pm | Room F102 Music Room | open to all students interested in performing in rock and pop groups |
| Wednesdays | Senior Girls Vocal Group | 3.20 - 4.00pm | Room is TBC See Mr Hall | See Mr Hall for further details |
| Thursdays | Concert Band | 3.15 - 4.15pm | Drama or S. Hall 8502 / Swain Hall | open to all band instrumentalists of about grade 4+ standard and above |
| Fridays | Senior Choir | 12.30 - 1.10pm | Room F102 Music Room | open to students of all abilities in years 10-12 |

For any further information please see Mr Cole or Miss Sutcliffe



SCHOOL LIBRARY

Opening Times

Year group access to the Library and 8102
For book borrowing, private study and access to computers and printing.

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| BEFORE SCHOOL | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| BREAK A | 9 | 7 | 12 | 7 | 9 |
| BREAK B | 8 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 8 |
| LUNCH TIME | 7 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 10 |
| AFTER SCHOOL | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |

Year 12 can use the Library and 8102 during study periods providing there isn't a lesson taking place. If there is a lesson in the Library, Year 12 can use B102, ILA or JCC.



Every penny we raise means Macmillan can be right there for more people living with cancer.

**HGS will be supporting the
Macmillan Coffee Morning again
this year on
Friday 24 September 2021**

**Home made bakes supplied
by our catering team, will be
available during breaktime for
a minimum donation of £1.00.
Larger donations can be made
via Parentpay.**