



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Examinations are well and truly on us with AS and GCSE written exams coming thick and fast from last Monday and A2 exams straight after half-term. Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 are clearly taking these examinations seriously and staff are doing everything we can to help, both in terms of subject knowledge and general support and encouragement. At this time of year there are always a few faces that carry the message "I wish I'd worked harder/started sooner" but, as all teachers and parents know, it is very hard to get this message across to young people who do tend to think they know best (just like we did when we were their age!). There is a quote from J R R Tolkien I noticed when I re-read Lord of the Rings a few years ago. As someone who has spent many years teaching teenagers and realising that experience is something you have to experience (I suppose the clue is in the word!) the quote sums this up pretty well: "The burned hand teaches best. After that, advice about fire goes to the heart." Having said that, we do not have to find out everything from scratch and it is our job, as teachers, parents and carers to teach young people about fire (and a zillion other things) so they don't have to 'burn their hands'. Richard Bramley

Staff Walk

On Saturday morning 13 intrepid walkers (11 members of staff and two spouses) and two dogs set off from the car park in Helmsley at the start of the Cleveland Way. Three of the group (and one dog) left us at Rievaulx Abbey and the rest of us carried on beyond Sutton Bank to our final destination of Sneck Yate Bank. We walked just over 12 miles in perfect walking weather and had a really good time. Thank you so much to Terry Rutherford for organising the day out and guiding us so well (with the help from his wife Ann) and for Martin Blythe who provided transport and also sustenance in the form of lovely fruited bread baked by his wife Betty. I hope we can find the time to do more of these walks in the glorious North Yorkshire countryside.



Peter Pan Rehearsal Schedule - Please Keep an eye on Fronter to see if there is a rehearsal this week.

Congratulations to **Corey Eastwood** on winning the over 15 year old category for the Young Humanist essay competition. Corey won £50 and was presented with his certificate by Brian Quinn, Chair of the North Yorkshire Humanist on Monday.



Corey's Reflection

How did we come to exist? That's the ultimate existential question that all of us will consider at some point in our lives. I recently won a Young Humanist essay competition on whether religion is a superstition. I entered this competition in part because I often find I am fascinated by the existential questions which are yet to be answered. I have found that these questions have now become a feature of my daily thoughts as I imagine might be the case for many others. My other motivation was that I wanted to answer this question in a way unique to me, my personality and my way of thinking. I

wanted to write an answer that would be logical yet a little bit unorthodox because having considered these existential questions so much it is clear to me that there is and probably never will be any way to get a definitive answer. It was important for me that I justify the conclusion that religion is more than a superstition, although I myself am not religious, as it is crucially important that we respect all viewpoints on the issue of existence whether those be scientific or related to an omniscient being. What makes this conclusion more important is as religion provides people with purpose and hope and I can truly see the value of this having come to my own conclusion that there may be no rhyme, reason or purpose. Perhaps we should spend less time looking in the mouth of the gift horse that is existence and more time living because the bottom line is that our world is a 50 billion-year (generous by many estimates) exercise in achieving and succeeding and most importantly, existence is an exercise in acceptance, resilience and compassion and I for one wouldn't have it any other way. In light of this my essay explored the argument of Descartes that the only certainty is our ability to think and finally exploring the possibility of a matrix like world in which all of our perceptions are manipulated by machines. It mocks our impossible situation, what some might call insignificance, but it also pays tribute to the audacity, resilience, unity and brilliance that encapsulates much of our society today by exploring the utility of religion. I am extremely proud of the essay as it emerged, surpassing my initial hopes by far and I hope that anyone else exploring such existential question enjoys the same success that I have. As many of us in Sixth Form after exams, will soon be moving on to university, careers and I hope fruitful lives I would say that as a fellow student I have nothing but respect for everyone I have met at my time attending Lady Lumley's School and wish everyone the best. If you ever find yourself struggling for a purpose perhaps you might reflect on these ideas as I am certain I will take many lessons with me from my fellow students. Corey Eastwood

Thought Of The Week

Plans to protect air and water, wilderness and wildlife are in fact plans to protect man

Word Of The Week - Tremendous. I had some tremendous news this week so I thought I would share the word tremendous with you. Tremendous is an adjective which should mean vast or huge. The news I got was not vast or huge, but it was very exciting. The word tremendous is used informally to mean very exciting or even unusual according to Dictionary.com (not a use with which I am familiar). Tremendous can also be used as an intensifier, which sounds like a difficult grammatical concept but one we use it all the time: "You have been a tremendous help" being an example of using one word (tremendous) to intensify another (help). You can see where this comes from as I imagine we have all heard a phrase similar to "you have been a great help". Even better, maybe you've been a tremendous help. The word actually comes from the Latin word *tremendus* which means 'terrible' from the word *tremere* (meaning to quake) and literally something to be trembled at. Anyway, I hope you all have a tremendous weekend (as in exciting!)

Austrian Exchange

I am still looking for host families for eight girls who are coming on the Austrian visit in July. They are Year 11 age and have been learning English for several years, so there is no requirement to be able to speak German. The students will arrive on Wednesday 4th July and will stay until Tuesday 10th. They will be in school or on trips on week days and with host families on an evening and at the weekend. They are coming to experience life in a British family and would just take part in normal family life. If anyone would like any more information please see me in the languages department or e-mail me on amark@ladylumleys.net. Miss Mark.

North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) - A consultation on our strategic plan for education of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, 2018 to 2023. NYCC has a duty to keep special educational provision under review and to make sure there is the right type of provision and enough places to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). You can find out more about NYCC special educational needs and disabilities services here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/send-local-offer>.

NYCC are inviting parents/carers and students to share views on the proposed strategic plan. Please see school website for further information and consultation dates.

Bronze DofE

Last week saw 33 dedicated students from Year 10 complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's training expedition. The students had been very motivated in the run up to the expedition, having



completing most of their volunteering, physical and skill sections over the winter months. The expedition was a very intensive, two day event. Students learned lots of incredibly vital expedition skills, including how to pitch tents, use stoves, cook camp food and administer first aid. On the hill, the groups completed two training walks, which focused on refining navigation skills. Staff were incredibly pleased with the level of commitment and organisation demonstrated throughout the organisation. The groups now have a few weeks to rest before their qualifying expedition in June. Thanks to all staff involved.

Tennis Coaching

Damian Galloway will be offering a free tennis taster session for all year groups from 3.45 to 5 pm on Wednesday 23rd May. All tennis abilities from novice to experienced welcome.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 21st May

Non Uniform Day £1 Donation
Laser Run, Ryedale 3:30-5pm

Tuesday 22nd May

Y9 Partnership Rounders, Norton 4pm

Wednesday 23rd May

Y9 Drama Rehearsal Performance, Rosedale Primary School 9am-4pm

Thursday 24th May

Y8 Partnership Rounders, Eskdale 4pm

Friday 25th May

School Closes For Half Term

Upcoming Events...

4th June Students Return To School

4th June A2 Exams Start

4th - 8th June Y7 Exams

7th - 8th June Y10 Bronze DofE Expedition

w/c 11th June House Matches

13th - 14th June Y6 Induction Days

18th - 22nd June Y8 Exams

w/c 18th June Y7 Geography Fieldwork

19th June Parent Forum tbc

20th June Y8 Eurofest tbc

Main School Office/Attendance: 01751 472846

Finance Office (ParentPay): 01751 470043