



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

It may be the last but one week of term but still loads going on. Most of the Year 8 cohort are at Bewerley Park (having a great time as I heard on my visit last night), Year 10 are out on Work Experience, Year 7 had an enterprise day and went to Middlesbrough to visit a mosque and a gurdwara and Year 9 went to Leeds to visit a synagogue and meet members of the Jewish community. Meanwhile normal lessons carry on as we come down from the high of the very successful whole school production of Peter Pan – huge thanks to all involved in the show.

Richard Bramley

## Year 9 to 10 options

As I said in an earlier Newsletter, because we build the options around the students' choices, constructing the school timetable is an extremely complicated process. We allow the students pretty much a free choice for their four options and then Sam Squibb does everything humanly possible to fit these into the timetable. This year there are 146 students in Year 9 and all but four got their first four choices. Whilst it is disappointing for those four students, all of whom have been seen individually by Ms Squibb, the system we use means the students have the greatest possible choice of subjects to study in Years 10 and 11. If your son or daughter has not already been seen by Ms Squibb then they will have got their original choice of the four options subjects. A formal letter informing the students will be given out before the end of term. Richard Bramley

## Austrian Visit

On Wednesday 4th July, after a very long journey from Weiz (Southern Austria, near Graz), 19 15-16 year-old students and 2 teachers from our partner school in Austria arrived in Pickering. For some of the students it was their first visit to England and many of them had only ever visited London before, so they were very excited. All of the students learn English back home and were keen to practise their language skills. The students stayed with host families but met on school days to go on trips with their teachers. They spent a day in York, a day at the coast and then a day in lessons at Lady Lumley's and the weather was glorious for the duration of their stay. On the weekend the students spent time with their host families. All of the students thoroughly enjoyed their stay and have made new friends. Hopefully some of the students who hosted will be interested in going to Austria in the future. The Austrian exchange is open to students who study German in Years 10 - 13. For more information see Miss Mark. Many thanks to everyone who hosted a student.



## John Muir Award

On Wednesday the John Muir group went to explore a local place. This time it was the magical Dalby Forest. In preparation for this, the students planned their routes

and produced kit lists. We explored the magnificent off-road trails of Dalby Forest, savouring the wonderful sights and taking part in mountain bike challenges. According to **Alfie Harrison** "The skills park was the best part of the trip" and he would like to go back because he thought it is was "really adventurous". Mr Mann



## Year 11 Prom

Friday 29th June was the Year 11 prom and was well attended. The students looked lovely. They were all very well behaved and did themselves proud. A great night was had by both students and staff. Thank you to everyone that attended. Mrs Briston



**Thought of Week** - "This holiday aim to do a random act of kindness every day!"

**Word Of The Week - Bereft**

I was updating my list of past Words of the Week and trying to ensure there were no duplicates (something I have failed on at least twice!) when I suddenly realised, with only hours to go to the deadline, that I was bereft of ideas for this week's word. I think I have already mentioned Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary and this is something we will focus on in school in the next year, and I think bereft would be a Tier 2 word. These are words that may not be commonplace in the students' vocabulary but words they will meet in texts which they need to recognise and know the meaning. Apparently we need to know 95% of the words in a piece of text in order to understand it. An interesting experiment to try at home would be to take an article in a newspaper or downloaded from the internet and get someone else to blank out 1 in 20 words (5%). Could you still make sense of what the text was about, especially if the words were the key words in the passage? Having a reasonably extensive vocabulary is like having the key to the door of learning; it is such an advantage for any learner. That is why reading is so important as it really is the best way of learning new words and increasing the range of known vocabulary. Meanwhile, bereft means *deprived* or *parted (from)* as in bereft of hope or bereft of ideas. Bereft is the adjectival form of the verb bereave, which we should have heard off as the noun bereavement – the loss of someone especially through death. The word origin is Old English meaning to deprive or take away.

**Junior Maths Kangaroo - Solution:**

The key is to remember BIDMAS (or BODMAS or even PEMDAS!) All multiplications need to be completed before the additions. The calculation which gives the largest result is **A (11)**.

**Governor news**

The governors held their annual business meeting on Tuesday this week. At this meeting governors elect chairs of committees so that the governing body is up and running, ready for September and the new academic year. Mr John Cheetham was re-elected as chair of governors, Mrs Megan Murray as vice-chair, Mrs Tracey Edgar as chair of the curriculum committee and Rev Alan Payne as chair of resources.

**WOW Club**

Our Youth Club is called WOW Club, standing for "Week on Wednesday", because we meet on alternate Wednesdays in Pickering Methodist church hall, term time only.

Times are 7.00 – 8.30pm  
Cost is 50p per session  
Ages 10 to teens

We do things like...

Arts and Crafts  
Cooking (Eating)  
Games and Sports  
Dressing up and Drama  
Quizzes and Games

New members encouraged  
See website [pickeringmethodistchurch.co.uk](http://pickeringmethodistchurch.co.uk)  
We are supported by North Yorkshire Youth – a charity supporting youth work in this area

**Sport's Day** Tuesday 17th July

Ice Cream will be available during the afternoon provided by Bradley's Ice Cream. £1.20 per ice cream. 20p goes to the Rob Stephenson Trust

**Student Success**

Congratulations to **Emily Robson** Y10. Emily has qualified for the English National Swimming finals in three events. The competition is to be held in August- good luck Emily

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Monday 16th July**

Non Uniform Day  
Y13 Gold DofE Expedition 16th-20th  
Y8/Y10/Senior High Jump

**Tuesday 17th July**

Sports Day - Non Uniform  
Y8 MFL Enrichment Rosedale 17th 4pm -18th 3:15pm

**Wednesday 18th July**

Y9/10 Pop Up Shakespeare, York 9:30am - 3:30pm  
Y8 House Tag Rugby  
Y6 Transition Evening 6:30pm  
Music Concert 7:30pm

**Friday 20th July**

**Last Day Of Term**

**Upcoming Events...**

3rd September - Staff Training Day  
4th September- Y12/Y13 Students Enrol  
4th September - Y7 Students Start, 12noon  
5th September - All Students Return to School



**Food in School Holidays**

Every Friday in the Summer Holidays  
Come along at 12.00 for  
Spuds and Puds  
No charge but donations welcome  
Pickering Methodist Church  
Any queries contact Karen Tel 01751 473004

Main School Office: 01751 472846  
Attendance: 01751 470005 Finance Office (ParentPay):  
01751 470043