



Year 8 Office: 01553 779408

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September to October 2021

Key Messages from Mr Johnson

Many thanks to the hard work of all our students and staff during this half term. I have been very impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of our school community. It has been great to get closer to "normal", particularly with the increase in our extra-curricular participation, sports fixtures and the return of school trips. As ever, our curriculum doesn't end at 3.25 and it is great to see so many students take advantage of the tremendous opportunities and experience our school offers.

There have been many highlights to the term already, but after more than a year without our open evenings it is worth thanking both students and staff for their involvement in the Year 6 and Sixth Form open evenings alongside our school tours. I was proud to see our school community showing prospective students and parents what we have to offer.

As we continue to take measures to keep ourselves and our community safe, we will be considering potentially increasing Covid safety measures next half term. We will certainly continue to expect all students, except those who are exempt, to wear face coverings as they move around the school buildings. With this in mind, please ensure your child has a reusable face mask with them for use in school: we would really like to reduce the amount of disposable masks given out on a daily basis.

As you know, this term the whole school is mourning the loss of one of our students. I cannot easily convey the huge sadness felt by us all and we send our condolences to his family and friends.

Best wishes

Mr Johnson

A Long and Busy Half Term

Welcome back!

I think I could start most of the newsletters with just how busy we have been, but the start of a new year always seems to be quite hectic, with lots of new challenges for all of the pupils. We have made a fantastic start to the year and it is lovely to see the Year 8s showing lots of maturity and independence. Our focus of the year will be to give all of the pupil's small goals and to get them to think about acting in an independent and thoughtful manner. They should begin to take responsibility for their learning and pride in the progress that they are making.

Endeavour

We are launching the “Endeavour” challenge this year, which follows on from the “AHero” challenge that was such a success last year. Each pupil will be encouraged to rise to the challenges and these will include making short presentations, doing some research, writing short book reviews and getting work displayed. We will continue to encourage an involvement in extra-curricular activities both in and out of school and we will keep a record of when the pupils go on educational visits (even if they are virtual tours).

We are looking forward to a big celebration at the end of the year and the pupils will need to complete all of the challenges in order to join in.

Extra-curricular



One of the things we really want all pupils to do this year is to get involved with group activities. We are urging all of our pupils to try an extra-curricular activity and to work well with other people. It has been lovely to see so many auditioning for the school production and several of the sports teams are doing well. The rugby and netball teams have had their first matches and the football team is now well established.



We have several pupils who have either started a new musical instrument or have continued with their lessons and the choir is sounding superb. There will be more opportunities to perform as we move towards Christmas and we are looking forward to hearing some of our pupils in the concerts to come. My understanding is that the choir will also be invited on a special outing very soon!

Super Learning Day

During a “Super Learning Day”, we suspend the timetable and we give all of the pupils the chance to experience a different way of learning. This was our first Super Learning Day and we looked closely at sustainability. Pupils created a project and made a presentation outlining a new product that might help to save the planet! It was a great day and some of the ideas were really imaginative. It was a highly energetic and rewarding day. Our next Super Learning Day will be in April and we hope to be visiting the Space Centre in Leicester.



Perfect Prefects

In Year 8, all of the pupils get the chance to act as prefects. These are quite often the first people visitors will see when they arrive at the school and they are given lots of jobs to do during the day. So far, our pupils have been given lots of praise for their efforts.

A few of the highlights:

Springwood Year 8 were represented by Kara, Gracie and Ethan at the inter-school “**Spelling Bee**” held at Smithdon High School. They were a victorious team with Kara taking the overall top spot.



A few of our pupils had a fantastic trip to Jesus College Cambridge as part of their “**Insight Discovery**” work. Joining forces with pupils from Terrington and Smithdon, they were given a chance to walk around the college grounds and to take part in a range of activities designed to get them thinking about their futures.



Photography Competition

To enter go to:
norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/gallery/photo-competition

Celebrating 25 years of the Trinity Broads Partnership

Your photographs must be taken at the Trinity Broads. The closing date has been extended to 21 November 2021.

When submitting your entry please remember to include the following details:

1. Your name
2. Contact details
3. Which category and class you are entering

The top 100 photos will hopefully be exhibited at a special event in 2021 where the winners will be announced.

What could you win?

Prizes will include a meal and boat trip on Trinity Broads.



Thank you to everyone who has entered our photo competition so far!

With the unprecedented situation in 2020 leading to the cancellation of the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Trinity Broads Partnership, we will be extending the photo competition to run next year as well, and hopefully running some of the events next year celebrating restoration and conservation work and the partnership's contribution to wildlife, landscape and the community.

The Trinity Broads are brilliant for wildlife and great places to explore. Help us celebrate them by entering an image from there to our photography competition. We are looking for photographs that capture:

- Trinity Broads – the seasons (set of 2 photos)
- Watery Wildlife of the Trinity Broads (1 photo)
- Living Water for people and wildlife (1 photo)

There are three classes for submission:

1. Open to all: camera photographs
2. Amateur photo taken on a mobile phone
3. Under 16 year olds

