

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

Year 10 Autumn Half-Term Newsletter

This term we have all been stunned and very saddened by the death of one of our own Yr10 students. These last few days have been some of the hardest in my teaching career and yet I have also felt huge pride for the dignity, kindness and compassion that the students have shown to each other and to staff as we all try to come to terms with what has happened.

We are encouraging students to talk about how they are feeling and to approach their tutors, Miss Wright or myself in the Year Office or Miss Smith or Mrs Franks in the Safeguarding Office. I have also shared in an assembly and emailed to students directly, the following ways to seek additional support. I have also invited in various professional councillors to provide further support were necessary. If you would like your child to see one of these councillors please let myself or Miss Wright know.

Support Sites and useful numbers

- **Young Minds** – Text YM to 85258
This is a 24/7 text support for Young people across the UK who are experiencing a mental health crisis.
- **Norfolk and Waveney Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Service**. 0800 977 4077
- **Nelsons Journey** - Child Bereavement Support for children and Young people. 01603 431788
- **Samaritans** – Open 24/7 call 116 123 or Chat Online, using the Samaritans Online chat service.
- **Childline** – If your under 19 you can confidentially call or chat online about any problem. 0800 1111

Ambulance / Emergency services - **999**

Despite all of this Year 10 have made a successful start to their GCSE's and their teachers have been full of praise for how they are doing in lessons.

The class of 2023



Your GCSE's start here!

Please use this form when you submit to complete your GCSE choices in your first year. Therefore, it is very important that you prepare for the subjects that you will be studying next year and for the ground setting.

It has been noted that some of your subjects in your first year will have some extra learning that you will not have done over the summer holidays. Therefore, it is important that you have some knowledge of what you need to know by September. It is important that you have some responsibility for your own progress of school and don't start GCSE's from a point of strength.

Your subject teachers will check in September to ensure you have completed what is required of you.

I have been inundated with emails from teachers praising the work the Year 10 students have done over the summer to prepare for their GCSE courses and the positive way that they have started since September.

I have used a random name selector to award a Nando's food voucher for each subject our assemblies!

Celebration assembly

Ever wondered what 300 sweet and chocolate bars look like?!



We ended this term with a celebration assembly where I read out the names of all the students who had been nominated by a subject teacher for working well in their lesson. I was very proud to be able to give every child in the year group a chocolate bar as a reward.

Form Competition

Our Form Competition will continue into Key Stage Four and the best performing form for this half-term is Mrs Mann's 10F2. Their fantastic achievements were rewarded by early morning chocolate muffins during tutor-time!



Key Stage 3 Celebration Evening Badges

We enjoyed specially prepared pizza's at lunchtime this week and the subject badges were awarded to those students who were awarded the highest attainment and most improved student awards. These badges are worn with pride on student's blazers.



Super Learning Day

I invited in students from Lincoln University and staff from the UEA to deliver sessions to our year group on University life, study skills, dealing with stress and revision technique. They were very impressed with our students and the questions they asked and the feedback from our students was very positive too!

Well done Year 10, we are very proud of you.

Mr Scoles and Miss Wright.