PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL READY; WORK READY; LIFE READY



Dear Parent/Carers & Students

Welcome to our June newsletter! This month College has been very focused on supporting Y11 students through their GCSE exams, and now it is the turn of Y10 students with their first set of mock exams. However. this doesn't mean there has been nothing else happening around the College. We have had so many opportunities for students to engage in which we are thrilled to share with you in this newsletter.

BARNSLEY FOOTBALL FINALS

On Friday 23rd May four of our football teams represented the college in the Barnsley Schools football finals at Oakwell Stadium. It was a fabulous experience for the students, being able to play on the same pitch as their heroes.

The year 7 boys put in a commanding performance, dominating the midfield and proving to be too strong for Astrea Academy Dearne with a 6-0 victory.

The year 8 boys fought hard and had spells of excellent football, but ultimately came up short, losing 4-1 against a strong Penistone Grammar School side.

The Under 13 girls had a close game against Penistone

Grammar School with two very evenly matched teams, that went to the drama of a penalty shootout! We won 4-2 on penalties with all penalty takers showing nerves of steel and scoring their penalties.

Horizor

Finally, the Under 15 girls lost 2-1 in a very well-matched game against Penistone Grammar School, that came down to one moment of magic near the end of match.



Happy reading!

GCSE GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

During National Fieldwork Fortnight, our Y10 GCSE Geography students completed their physical fieldwork along the Holderness Coastline - the fastest eroding coastline in Europe! The investigation involved students collecting data to assess the effectiveness of the Groyne at Mappleton by measuring the cliff height and the speed of longshore drift. The trip then continued at Flamborough Head where students had their lunch overlooking the famous "Drinking Dinasaur". The seals were also congregating on the Wave-cut platform below which offered very interesting views.



NATIONAL HOLOCAUST CENTRE

On Friday 6th and Thursday 12th June a group of Y9 students visited the National Holocaust Centre and Museum in Newark for a deeply moving and educational day. As part of the visit, students took part in a thought-provoking workshop that explored the history and lessons of the Holocaust through personal



stories, historical artifacts, and reflective discussions. One of the most memorable parts of the day was the rare and profound opportunity to meet Holocaust survivor Eva Clarke. Eva shared the extraordinary story of her birth at Auschwitz and the remarkable strength and courage of her mother, who defied unimaginable odds to keep her baby safe. Her testimony left a lasting impact on everyone present, offering a powerful reminder of the human cost of hatred and



the importance of resilience, compassion, and standing up against injustice.

The trip provided our students with not only historical knowledge but also emotional insight into the lived experiences of those who endured the Holocaust. It was a day that inspired empathy, critical thinking, and a deepened understanding of the importance of remembering the past to build a more humane future.





SUMMER CONCERT

On Thursday 12th June we had our first Summer Concert at Horizon. This was a great opportunity to really showcase our students' musical talent, with performances ranging from original songs to rock band performances to classical vocal solos. It was a very enjoyable evening, and we are very proud of the students who took part. A huge well done and thank you to them for their efforts.

FINANCE WEEK

During the month of June, we celebrated Financial Awareness Week. Every lesson had a financial aspect to it and specially tailored lessons were delivered in maths to ensure students. have the financial numeracy to be work ready and life ready. We welcomed a former student into Year 9 maths lessons who now works for the Bank of England and took the time to explain his career path and how the Bank of England operates. In addition, Year 7 and Year 8 students participated in the £10 challenge. Students applied for a £10 investment and were then given two lunchtimes to make as much money as possible. From the sales of cookies, brownies, tie-dyed socks and much more, we raised £168.50 to be shared between Barnsley Hospice and LimbBo Foundation, and students got to keep a share of their profit too! Well done to everyone who took part.



CALLUM SIMPSON - BOXER VISIT & GYM SESSION

On Thursday 5th June,14 Year 9 students had a wonderful opportunity as part of the Chase your Future Community Activation project, led by England Boxing but driven by former student Callum Simpson in the build up to his European Super Middleweight fight at Oakwell.

As part of the session students had the opportunity to take part in some 'introduction to boxing' sessions focusing on discipline, focus and chasing your goals. The event was a fantastic insight into the training and the focus needed to become a champion and the activities allowed the students to engage in fun and focused activities as well as competing against Callum himself.

The event took place at Callum's original Barnsley boxing gym, Barnsley Star ABC, and this allowed students to immerse themselves in the training and activities Callum himself would have done at their age. There was an added bonus that saw one of our students, a keen boxer through the Barnsley Star boxing club, offered sponsorship opportunity from Callum to support him at the early stages of his amateur career!

Following this, on Tuesday 17th June, a group of Year 8,9 and 10 students were given the opportunity to quiz Callum as he brought his European Super Middle Weight belt into college. The session enabled students to quiz him about all things boxing and also about his time at school. This opportunity gave a real insight into the hard work and dedication from a former student with a clear message be humble, work hard and you can achieve. Following the questions, Callum spent time meeting students across all age groups, taking the time to interact with students during the lunchtime break, and also spent time visiting students across all our provisions.



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

On Wednesday 18th June we were overwhelmed by all the kind and considerate 'thank you' messages that families took the time to send in. We received well over 250 comments for a wide range of staff from all across the college.

A huge thank you to those of you who took the time to make us smile!

> We produce work of the highest quality; we have the confidence to celebrate our success; we respect our environment.



KEY DATES IN JUNE

w/c 30th June

- Y10 mock exams continue
- Y6 Transition Day
- Duke of Edinburgh expedition

w/c 7th July

- Y10 Work Experience
- Y7 & Y8 Sports
 Afternoons
- Y6 Transition Day
- Celebration of
 Achievement Evening
- Duke of Edinburgh
 expedition

w/c 14th July

- Recognising Positive
 Behaviour Trips
- Y10 100% attendance
 Driving School reward
- Sports Awards
- School closes for the summer break on Friday 18th July

