



# NORTON COLLEGE

Beyond Expectations

Our Ref: TJ/JJA

8 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are well.

It is the end of a very eventful term. It began with concerning news of the spread of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 which led, in turn, to unprecedented levels of staff absence last month. However, we appear to have negotiated those difficulties and we have returned to a greater level of normality over the past week.

I would like to thank you for your support, not only during the recent period of staff absence but throughout the whole pandemic. I have worked in education for nearly 30 years and this has been a period like no other. Remote learning, on-site testing, contact tracing and year group bubbles, amongst other things, have presented us with challenges which we could never have anticipated.

We are immensely proud of the way in which the whole college community has dealt with these issues so resiliently. Hopefully, we will see an increasingly stable sense of our new normal as we move into the summer term.

### Year 11 Easter School

In an earlier letter to you, I outlined how the school is deploying its catch-up funds to address lost learning and support students in all year groups across the school. The Year 11 Easter School is one part of this wider programme and Mr Stones (Assistant Headteacher: Curriculum & Assessment) has written to the parents of those children who have asked to attend this event. Within this letter, important information is offered in relation to the programme and schedule. **Please remind students that the event is non-uniform and that they should bring a packed lunch as our catering facilities will be closed.** A significant number of staff are involved in delivering these sessions and I would like to thank them for their support in doing so.

### Year 9 Options

Most students in Year 9 have now had their one-to-one options conversation with a member of the school's leadership team. We will write to all parents of students in Year 9 to confirm final allocations once all one-to-one meetings have taken place.

### School of Rock

We are into our final rehearsals for our annual production of School of Rock. Here are our cast and crew for the production who have worked incredibly hard at lunchtimes and afterschool to make this production the best it can be.

Performances are on 26, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm and you can purchase your tickets via the link below:

<https://www.positickets.co.uk/eventdetails.php?EventID=3570#.YIAX-8jMKUK>



### **Free School Meals**

It has come to our attention that a number of parents whose children might be eligible for free school meals have not applied for this. If you believe that your child might be eligible, please use the following link which details the relevant criteria:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Where a student meets the free school meals criteria, credit is automatically and discreetly applied to his/her ParentPay account. Please note that we still use North Yorkshire County Council to administer this process, even though we are an academy.

### **Exam Invigilators**

As you know, students in Year 11 and Year 13 will shortly begin their examinations with the first exam scheduled to take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. We are looking to appoint exam invigilators to support the administration and supervision of a range of examinations running throughout this time. Additional duties include reading, scribing, prompting in exams for those candidates with access arrangements and ensuring that examinations are operated in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Joint Council for Qualifications. Full training will be provided, and successful candidates will be offered the opportunity to work with us in future years. Further information can be found [here](#).

**Goodbye to Mrs Jackson**

Finally, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye today to Mrs Jackson, Office Admin Assistant, after 14 years of loyal service to Norton College. First impressions are important and many of you will have spoken to Mrs Jackson when you have visited the college or when you have spoken to someone on reception. We will all miss Mrs Jackson's constantly cheerful advice and support for all stakeholders and we wish her a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. I hope that you have restful and enjoyable holiday.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Johnson  
Headteacher