



# NORTON COLLEGE

Beyond Expectations

Our Ref: TJ/LS

8 July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We are now coming towards the end of the year, and it is fantastic to be able to return to some of the traditional end-of-year events which have not run during the course of the pandemic. On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July, we have the Year 13 Leavers' Event and on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July, it is the Year 11 Prom. More detailed information about the events has been shared with students separately to this letter. Similarly, we have scheduled our Sports Day for next Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July and further information is included later in this letter.

### **End of Term and Year 10 Work Experience**

I explained in a letter earlier in the year that, as the additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 to mark the Queen's platinum jubilee, schools have been asked to identify an alternative date upon which to take this additional Bank Holiday. As a reminder, we have taken this additional day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 which means that Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 is the final day of the school year.

This means that Year 10 work experience will run from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Some students have asked whether they can continue their work experience voluntarily until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Unfortunately, as school staff will not be available to pick up any potential issues or concerns, this will not be possible. A separate letter will be sent to parents of all Year 10 students at the beginning of next week containing further detail about the work experience process.

### **Sports Day**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July we are delighted to welcome back the opportunity to hold a whole school Sports Day. The event involves all staff and students leading and participating in a range of track and field athletics events.

Students should arrive at school in **full correct PE kit**. Students should ensure that they have suitable protection from the weather (sun cream, sunhat, water bottle and jacket). Period 1 lessons will be as normal. Period 2 will then be shortened and after break students will be registered and directed to the school fields for the competition.

The day will end at 3:15pm as normal, following the 4 x 100m relay races. We strongly encourage all students to sign up to a minimum of one event through their mentor. All activities require two male and two female participants, and all participants score points for their mentor group in the quest to be year group champions.

Refreshments will be available for **cash purchase** on the school field. We are hopeful that the weather will be good. However, in the event of cancellation, we would look to the reserve date of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Good Luck to everyone involved!

### **Breakfast Provision in the Canteen**

We recognise that many students travel a significant distance to get to school and. Consequently, they can struggle to eat breakfast at home on occasion. From next Monday until the end of the summer term, we will be trialling breakfast provision in the canteen. Students will be able to purchase food and drink from 08:20-08:40.

We would appreciate it if you could reinforce with your children the need to balance their spending over the course of the day, so that they don't find themselves unable to purchase food at lunchtime.

### **Careers Week**

Building upon the success of the Year 9 Careers Fair during the Alternative Curriculum Day, all subject areas have delivered vocationally orientated lessons to all year groups this week. The purpose of this has been to raise awareness of the relevance of the curriculum to the world of work and it is part of our growing careers provision at Norton College. Ms Medley is the Careers Leader at the school, and she can be contacted at [rme@nortoncollege.net](mailto:rme@nortoncollege.net).

### **'Be Informed'**

Our local police liaison officers have requested that we share with you a new North Yorkshire Police text service in Ryedale, aimed at parents and carers of teenage children. 'Be Informed' is designed to inform parents and carers, via text message, of any anti-social behaviour incidents in the local neighbourhood that officers are attending.

If their children are out at the time, parents and carers can then use this text as a trigger to contact their children, check their whereabouts, make sure they are ok and reassure themselves that they are not involved in the incident. More detail can be found [here](#).

### **Holidays During Term Time**

We know how much educational time has been lost throughout the pandemic and it is now more important than ever to maximise the impact of students' time in school. We have recently received some requests for students to be allowed to go on holiday during term time. This is not something which we can support, and any absence of this kind will not be authorised. This is common to schools across the country and has been the case for many years.

### **Picnic Tables for the School Yard and Field**

There are limited seating areas for students on the school yard and field during break and lunchtimes at present. If there are any local companies that would be able to provide/sponsor/part subsidise the cost of outdoor picnic tables, we would really like to hear from you.

### Cakeathon Success

Finally, as mentioned in last week's letter, one of our Year 10 students, Ben Kirkham, organised a Cakeathon on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July to raise funds for the Duke of Edinburgh award. The event raised a total of £145.50 – congratulations to Ben and thank you to everyone who supported it by attending.

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Johnson

Headteacher

