

# NORTON COLLEGE

## Beyond Expectations

Our Ref: PL/JJ

12 September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back! I am sure you were as pleased to send your sons and daughters back to College as we were to receive them. It was lovely to feel the building come alive with the energy and enthusiasm of students. We have been delighted with the maturity of the older students and the optimism of our new Year 7s.

### **Examination success in Year 11 and Year 13**

Summer was punctuated by two brilliant results days. Year 13's results enabled students to launch their next step, be that a theoretical physics degree or an apprenticeship at Norton Primary School. They were a lovely year and it was great to see how proud they and their families were.

The following week, Year 11 produced another set of results that parents, staff and, most importantly, students were proud of. 66% of the year group secured Grade 4 or above in English and maths. Encouragingly, over half the year group also secured at least a grade 5 in either English or Maths. Almost 80% of students gained a grade 4 in English.

### **Uniform and Ethos**

The appearance of the students, thanks to your support of our uniform guidance, is fantastic. Thank you. We believe the standards we have set together at the start of term help create a great sense of pride in our College. They also ensure children are not distracted with the latest fashions and can focus on the important things about College: developing skills and qualities, and securing qualifications that give our young people every opportunity in the future. Formal photographs were taken this week and will be with you shortly for your approval.

### **Private Bus Transport**

The popularity of the College with families from outside of the North Yorkshire County Council funded transport area continues to strengthen. Thank you for your support in helping the College fund these additional transport routes. We will be issuing formal bus passes once photographs are available. Being responsible for the bus pass, travelling without adult supervision and being respectful of other passengers are all key life lessons and just as we work together to guide children to make the right choices in College we will do the same for the journey to school.

### **College Safety First**

It appears the only money schools can access these days is to maintain buildings. Phase 3 of our complete roof replacement is now seven weeks away from completion and once again the site is full of scaffolding. Student safety is always our priority and a flow system is ensuring children can move around the site safely.

### **Open Evening, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

Once again, our main promotional event for potential new students is scheduled for Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm. To help prepare the site, children will finish school early at 12.30 pm on that day. Sandwiches will be available at break for students who want to take their lunch home with them.

### **Governor Vacancy**

Governors play a significant part in the life of the school. It is a voluntary role which can offer a fascinating insight into the secondary world of education. We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. Please contact Tracy Douglas ([td@nortoncollege.net](mailto:td@nortoncollege.net)) for an informal chat about the role.

### **Staff News**

I am delighted at the calibre of new staff we have recruited this year. In interview, the key reasons for moving to Norton are often the children with their willingness to learn, the staff and how supportive they are, and our sixth form.

### **A warm welcome to:**

Mr Calderwood	Maths
Mr Findlater	Languages
Mr Hayton	ICT
Mr Lloyd	Humanities
Miss Pridmore	Maths
Mrs Russell	English Support Staff
Mr Sims	English
Mrs Turner	Science
Miss Uttley	Humanities

I was surprised to realise this is my tenth year in charge at Norton. Like me, there are many experienced and established leaders across the College. I am sure this blend of youth and experience is good for the stability and future success of the College!

### **Future planning**

This year, the college has begun a partnership with another academy group: Ormiston Academies Trust. We plan to work with the OAT group on matters linked to school improvement and staff development. It is a collaboration that will create great opportunities for all at Norton and we are delighted to be invited to be the first school in North Yorkshire to use this service.

### **School Calendar**

A full list of key events is on our website calendar. However, I have set out below the key dates for events this term:

#### **Autumn Term 1**

20.09.2018	Y7 Mentor Evening
26.09.2018	Open Evening
04.10.2018	Y10 Aspirations Evening
10.10.2018	Y11 Options Evening
17.10.2018	Norton's Got Talent
25.10.2018	Y10 Parents' Evening

#### **Autumn Term 2**

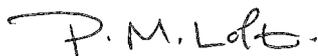
15.11.2018	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening
22.11.2018	Y12/13 Parents' Evening
28.11.2018	Former Y11/13 Presentation Evening
06.12.2018	Y11 Parents' Evening
12.12.2018	Christmas Concert

### **Home School Communications**

As in previous years, the majority of our home school communication is via email using a company called Schoolcomms. Please help us keep you informed by ensuring we have a valid, current email address. This year we will also be routinely updating our social media pages on Twitter and Facebook, a simple way to keep up with the many events involving students.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mr P M Loftus  
Headteacher