

Our ref: MMC/NWI

24 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As half term five draws to a close, I am reminded of the amazing effort that our young people have put into their own learning. We strive to give students great opportunities, but they must invest in their own future and engage in them for it to have impact. We have record numbers of students staying for enrichment and a fully invested year 11 group who continue to surpass even our highest expectations. We feel lucky to have the young people we do and thank parents for putting their faith in us to educate them.

373 positive praise messages have gone to parents this week, and this is a consistent figure. We work hard to recognise the efforts of students and hope that this is appreciated.

Year 11 Examinations

Week Three of Exams and Holiday Revision Sessions

The third week of GCSE examinations has seen our year 11 students continue to display exemplary levels of investment as they completed examinations in English Literature, Computer Science, Physics, ICT, Mathematics, English Language and French. Attendance to our Breakfast Prepare to Achieve sessions has been excellent, with students taking up the offer of tea and toast alongside the support of subject teachers, to ensure they are fully prepared for each examination.

We have ended the half term with hoodies and ice creams as a reward for Y11. The students have enjoyed a period 4 that has been focused on 'FUN'. Creating unstructured time for our young people is important and something that we take into account when building our exam offer each year. We appreciate that the exam period is stressful and that few students will have experienced sustained pressure, so we create various opportunities for them to relax with their friends whilst in school.

Throughout half term, our Achieve programme will continue to run from Tuesday 28 May until Sunday 2 June to support all students with final preparations as we enter the second half of the examination season. Parents and students have received details about the Achieve programme via ClassCharts, as well as a link to sign up to the sessions.

Sports Fixtures

This week has been a busy week for fixtures, with the year 7 Cricket squad participating in the South Yorkshire Cricket Festival along with years 7 and 8 taking part in the Doncaster Schools Rugby League Festival, run by Doncaster RLFC across two days. For many, it was the first time representing STWA in the sports and throughout, all showed outstanding resilience and determination in each game that they played in. Well done to all who have played, we look forward to arranging more fixtures in half term 6.



Standards

On the rare occasion that students receive a C4 sanction, this is always followed up by a phone call home to parents to confirm the reason and allow you to support the school's behaviour policy. This is something which is tracked in school to ensure that it takes place. Please be aware that students who receive a C3 or C4 must then attend their detention the following week. Students missing a 60-minute C4 detention will then be placed in a 2-hour SLT detention on the following Monday or Friday.

Rewards

We have a large number of students who are close to or have already met the criteria for the Golden Ticket events which will take place at the end of this term. It has been great to see students working so hard and being so invested in their learning. There will be the final half term Golden Ticket event and all students have the opportunity to achieve entry.

Safeguarding Survey Feedback

Thank you to all those who completed our safeguarding survey. Overall, we had over 220 responses. As a token of thanks, we entered all those who responded to the survey into a prize draw for a £40 ASDA voucher. The lucky winner is: **Mrs Abigail Lees**. Please call into the academies Reception to collect your prize.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive regarding the views on child safety in school and parents/carers feeling their child is well cared for. It was highlighted some parents are not aware of the safeguarding content covered in the curriculum, as a result, we will ensure this is communicated regularly moving forward.

Next, we will select a sample of parents/carers for a follow-up conversation to clarify and further explore lines of enquiry raised by the survey.

We look forward to sharing a more detailed summary of our findings and our intended next steps soon.

Yours faithfully

Mr M McDonald
Principal

