

A message from the Headteacher:

I would like to begin the new school year by welcoming our Year 7 pupils. They have made a fantastic start to their time at York High School and a very positive impression on everyone. Well Done!

I must also pass on my huge congratulations to last year's Year 11 pupils who achieved the most fantastic GCSE results, smashing our previous record from 2009 by a huge distance. In summary 93% of the pupils gained the equivalent of at least 5A*-C GCSE grades and 57% of pupils gained the equivalent of 5A*- C grades including English and Maths. These figures were up 25% and 11% respectively on the 2009 results. The 93% figure was the second highest in the city and the 57% figure placed us in front of Burnholme, Canon Lee, Huntington and Joseph Rowntree School. This wonderful achievement is a great credit to the young people themselves, their families and the staff in our school who worked with them. I am also pleased to say that our new Year 11 are well on the way to securing similar results in 2011. The most important thing about these results however is that it demonstrates to our pupils and the wider community that young people at York High School can achieve and I hope that it will inspire everyone to even greater achievements in the years ahead.

I hope you feel as proud of our school as I do, thank you to everyone for their contribution to our success.



Introducing our new Colleagues

The start of the new school year is a time to welcome new members of staff. There has been a few changes and the following is a list of new colleagues joining YHS this year:

Miss Albin - Teacher of English

Mrs Graham - Teacher of Mathematics

Ms Kay - Teacher of Humanities and Personal Development.

Mr Skivington - Teacher of RLS

Miss Thorpe - Attendance Officer

Mrs Hope - Receptionist

Finally, we expect to have a couple of new teaching assistants join us in the next few weeks.

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Uniform

Parents and pupils will be aware that we intend to introduce our new uniform from September 2011. The consultation last term resulted in a decision that the uniform in a years' time will be based on a white school shirt, tie and V necked sweater with a blue sweater for Years 7-9 and a black sweater for Years 10 and 11. A simpler, cheaper PE uniform was also agreed. This means that the overall cost of the full school uniform will be no more than the current one. It will however be smarter and reflect the continuing improvements and reputation of our school. During this term we will be consulting with pupils on the final detail of the uniform and we will be able to let parents know exact details by the end of this term in plenty of time to make preparations for next September.

For this year however the uniform remains the same as published and while the vast majority of pupils have come back in excellent dress there are a few remaining issues for a small number.

Pupils must wear **PLAIN BLACK SHOES**. Canvas shoes are not acceptable, and whilst plain black trainers are acceptable those with colours and logos are not. Pastoral staff will be contacting parents where there are remaining problems. This has been the policy for the last few years and we would appreciate the support of parents in this matter.

Finally on uniform, a very small number of Year 10 pupils have not been able to purchase a medium sized school fleece with a logo as our providers were insisting on a further minimum purchase of 1000 garments and with the change coming in September 2011 most of these would have remained unsold. For this reason we have purchased a small number of plain black fleeces which we will sell to those students at a reduced price. I do apologise for this minor problem but hope that everyone will appreciate why we are moving forward in this way.

Yr 7 SEAL Day

Only a week into the new term and Year 7 spent an exciting day off timetable working with the Local Authority on Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL).

The Year Group participated in a number of activities focusing on developing skills such as understanding another's point of view, working in a group, sticking at things when they get difficult, resolving conflict and managing worries.

Throughout the day the different tutor groups worked with their tutors getting to know each other whilst problem solving, using their thinking skills, through parachute games, circle time and dance. The whole day was finished off with each tutor group working together to decide on their own motivational motto.

Well done Year 7 on a great start at York High School.



Primary School Links

York High School are developing ever closer links with our partner primary schools and we were delighted to hear about the huge improvement in KS2 results at Westfield School this summer. Many congratulations to Mrs Ralph and her colleagues. It is great to see the progress being made by our Primary Schools. I would also like to welcome Mrs Rawling, the new Headteacher at Woodthorpe School and we are looking forward to working with her in the years ahead. Our stronger partnership will be reflected in our first ever joint Training Day on October 22nd when staff from YHS, Hob Moor Federation, Westfield and Woodthorpe will all be coming together to look at how we can use our partnership to provide even better opportunities for the young people in our community.



York High School Lottery

York High School has launched its very own lottery to raise money for school funds. The object of the YHS fund is to further the education and advancement in life of our pupils by providing or assisting the provision of educational, recreational and other charitable facilities not normally provided otherwise.

The YHS Lottery, in association with 'The Weather Lottery' is made up of the 'Sunshine' and the 'Lightning' draws.

How does it work?

Choose 6 numbers from 0 to 9 and enter them on the entry form, if your numbers match the last digit of the daily Fahrenheit temperature (in the right place) of Corfu, Istanbul, Tenerife, Innsbruck, Edinburgh and Stockholm, you win up to £25,000! Smaller prizes are available for matching 3 or more numbers in the correct position.

How much does it cost?

Each entry line costs £1 per week. The Sunshine Lottery has 4 draws each week, Monday-Thursday giving you 4 chances to win a top prize of £10,000 for your £1, the Lightning Lottery draw takes place each Friday with a top prize of £25,000.

Where does the money go?

All the money is kept securely in a stakeholders fund, 35% from the Sunshine Lottery and 60% from the Lightning Lottery comes back to school.

Please support us by picking up an entry form from school reception today or playonline at www.yorkhighschool.co.uk

Congratulations to

Mr Cowley, Mr Edison and Mrs Cartwright

York High Schools First Lottery Winners



Yr 9 Volunteering Day



On the 22nd July the whole of Year 9 were involved in a highly successful Volunteering/Community action Day. The day began with a presentation to all of Year 9 before they took part in activities they had selected. Some were involved in a conservation project at Acomb Wood; others were working with primary aged children at Acomb Library. Back in school, pupils were learning how to lead disability sports activities, football coaching sessions and mountain biking.

All the pupils involved entered into the spirit of the day and were excellent ambassadors for the school.

This year during Yr 10 a range of Volunteering and Community Activities will be offered to these pupils enhancing the employment chances of those taking up the offers.

Open Evening

Our Open Evening for pupils currently in Year 6 takes place on October 4th from 6.30 – 9pm and we are looking forward to welcoming prospective pupils and their families.

Opportunities will be available to tour the school, speak to staff, governors and pupils and participate in a variety of activities throughout the school.



Autumn Term

Thursday 2nd September - Thursday 21st October - **1st Half of Term**
Friday 22nd October - **Training Day**
Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - **Half Term Holidays**
Monday 1st November - Friday 26th November - **2nd Half of Term**
Monday 29th November - **Training Day**
Tuesday 30th November - Friday 17th December - **2nd Half of Term**
Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January - **End of Term Holidays**

Spring Term

Tuesday 4th January - Thursday 17th February - **1st Half of Term**
Friday 18th February - **Training Day**
Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February - **Half Term Holidays**
Monday 28th February - Friday 8th April - **2nd Half of Term**
Monday 11th April - Monday 25th April - **End of Term Holidays**

Summer Term

Tuesday 26th April - Friday 29th April - **1st Half of Term**
Monday 2nd May - **Bank Holiday**
Tuesday 3rd May - Friday 27th May - **1st Half of Term**
Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June - **Half Term Holidays**
Monday 6th June - Thursday 30th June - **2nd Half of Term**
Friday 1st July - **Training Day**
Monday 4th July - Friday 22nd July - **2nd Half of Term**
Monday 25th July - **End of Term Holidays**

To receive future copies of YHS News by email and in full colour please contact d.matthews@yorkhighschool.co.uk with your child's name and tutor group

