

Our Ref: RBR/FSC2012HEA

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Autumn Term Review 2018**

As we approach the end of what has been a very busy autumn term, I wanted to write to you to revisit the achievements of the past few weeks and confirm arrangements for the forthcoming months.

This has been yet another very successful term, following on from our fantastic results in the summer, which solidified our reputation as one of the leading schools in the Humber region. Once again we are in the top 10% of schools nationally for the progress our students make and 2018 marked the fourth consecutive year of outstanding results as a result of the hard work of our staff and students.

Additionally, for the second year running, we had to turn students away from Baysgarth in Year 7 because the school was full. This is a further sign that the local community has put its faith in us as the best all-round school in the local area.

On 10<sup>th</sup> December, we celebrated the achievements of last year, at our annual Prize Giving Celebration. Recognition was given to students who achieved outstanding academic success, demonstrated exceptional effort, contributed to extracurricular activities within school and the wider community.

Our ambition for academic excellence is complemented by our strong extracurricular opportunities, which offer students experiences they wouldn't usually access. This term we have arranged trips to the Stoneacre Academy, which have led to apprenticeship opportunities for our Year 11s; students have visited the University of Lincoln to take part in their Health and Care Careers convention; North Lindsey College hosted our students at a STEM workshop, where they learnt how to use a soap machine and other real life STEM skills; and students watched a performance of 'Oliver' at the Hull Truck Theatre, as part of their GCSE course. These are to name but a few, with many more opportunities planned for next term!

Furthermore, over the summer, we submitted a bid to the Savoy Educational Trust in partnership with The Grimsby Institute and secured a huge £15,000 of funding. The money will be used to enhance our Food Technology facilities and purchase state-of-the-art kitchen equipment for our students to use and develop their skills and knowledge in the subject.

Our aim to provide a range of academic and vocational experiences to each of our students has been further enhanced by the addition of an on-site allotment. From a recent vote, and the variety of suggestions from staff, students and the local community, we are proud to announce the winning name is.....'Dig It!' We are in the final stages of development and look forward to opening this in the new year!

We have also strengthened links with local primary schools through various events that we have hosted in partnership with the Get Ahead Team, including a Key Stage 1 Sporting Fundamentals Festival and Year 5 and 6 Football Tournament for girls and boys. We also hosted a British Values Day and Maths Challenge for our partner primary students. A schedule of all future events can be downloaded from our website.

We are also very proud of our fundraising for good causes, such as the wonderful efforts that were made for Children in Need last month, with the school raising over £250 from tombolas, bake sales and other activities. Amidst this, Year 9 student, Jamahl, braved the shave and raised over £300 for Cancer Research UK. Additionally, we are delighted to announce that the efforts of staff and students over our 'fundraising fortnight' have raised £507.90 for local charity, Aaron's Battle, and we donated lots of goods to the Barton and District Food Bank to help over the festive period!

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December sees another fundraising effort with our Christmas Jumper Day. Students can pay a voluntary contribution of £1.00 to come to school in non-uniform and a Christmas jumper, and the money raised will be donated to the 'Save the Children UK' charity. Alongside this, we will be hosting cake sales and other fundraising activities, which students will need a little extra money for should they want to participate. All monies collected from this will be used to help fund the Morocco expedition next summer. Further details can be found at [www.christmasjumperday.org](http://www.christmasjumperday.org)

As this term ends, we say goodbye to Mrs Brooksbank, Head of Humanities. We thank her for the fantastic service she has given to the students of this community and wish her all the best for the future.

Joining the team in January is Miss Melia, who will be working in the English department until July, to cover Mrs Megson's maternity leave.

After many, many years of dedicated service, we bid farewell to governors, Wendy Witter MBE and Vicky Vickers; we wish them both a happy retirement. Although they leave a gap difficult to fill, we have recruited a new Parent Governor in Mrs Jarrett, who brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge from her time as a Governor at Bowmandale Primary School.

The spring term does not begin with a teacher training day so **we expect all students to be on site by 8.25am on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019**. They will begin with tutor time on that day to brief them on what is to come during the spring term and to inform them of some minor timetable changes that reflect our new staff.

Some keys dates for the coming weeks are:

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019: Year 8 Options Evening (4.00-6.30pm)
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019: Year 8 & 11 Parents' Evening (4.00-7.30pm)
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019: Year 11 PPE Exams
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019: School closes for half term

In addition to these, we are also proud to announce that on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019**, we are hosting a Practical PiXL roadshow conference. PiXL, or Partners in Excellence, is a non-profit partnership of over 2,775 education providers, who regularly meet to share best practice to raise standards and give students a better future. Conferences are held nationwide, but this is the first time the organisation has visited our region. We are expecting over 200 delegates from across Hull, the East Riding, North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire and further afield, and so we have made the decision to **close the school early on this date, at 1.40pm**. Buses and taxis will leave at 1.50pm with the exception of the 552, whose time cannot be changed as it is a service bus. Students who normally use this bus should make alternative arrangements to travel home or can wait on site, where they will be supervised by a member of staff until the service bus arrives at its usual time. **Please note, there will be no Enrichment clubs or intervention sessions on this date, and no late bus provision will be in place.**

You can keep up to date with everything happening at the school via our website, on our Facebook page or via our mobile app, which you can download for free on the App Store and Google Play.

I want to thank you for the support you have given the school over the last term; working closely together we are making a real difference to the lives of our young people. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our families – take care and have a safe and restful break!

Yours faithfully



Richard Briggs  
Head Teacher



# BAYSGARTH SCHOOL

Strive.  
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Achieve.

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