



Dear Parent / Carer

Since we came back after New Year we've all had to make an unusually large number of adjustments for staff being off for family duties, health reasons, courses, monitoring and so on.

We fully appreciate that many of our young people have difficulty with changes, and try to limit the impacts, but some are necessary - and indeed healthy. I'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during this time.

- Following on from the above, Mr Gray would like to thank everyone for the support shown to him during Maggie's absence this week. We've been missing her!
- A trip to Ice Skating in Whitley Bay will be open to all pupils next Thursday evening, 26th January - £8 including skates. Please contact Maggie or Mr Gray if interested.
- The wonderful artwork in the top right is being created by **Harriet Branch** (y10) for her GCSE in Art, and is an example of the stunning artwork and photos appearing round school from our Art and Photography pupils. Bottom right shows **Regan, Joel, Simon, Felix and Jonah** with Mrs G and Mr Hodgson working on Graphic Art.
- YES!!!! After several failed attempts I managed to catch 6th Form in the act! They were actually working long enough for me to get some photos - shown here are **Luke Bullerwell, Nick McLaren and Sam Hutchinson** at their new desks in 6th form.
- Our GCSE Physics pupils have been learning about the Physics of Machines, with **Lance Kerr, Nick** (again) and **Lewis Hague** studying the factors that affect pendulums. Mock next week!
- Congratulations to Mrs Gorbould for passing her National Professional Qualification for Middle Leadership (NPQML)!
- Thank you to Y10/11 Parents and Carers for the overwhelmingly positive feedback at last week's Consultation Evening.
- 6th Form Parents and Carers Consultation Evening: Friday, 27th January (2.45-6.30)
- Happy birthdays to Tom McCowie (17) and Joint Head of Catering Wendy Armstrong (21 and a bit). Tom was particularly chuffed to show us all his Provisional Licence! Wendy celebrated her birthday rather differently, contending with an annual (but unannounced!) Environmental Health inspection, followed by an assessment for three units of her NVQ in Catering!
- Hot News! We've just learned that not only did Wendy pass her NVQ units, she and Sharon Biggs have gained the prestigious '5 star' Food Hygiene rating from Environmental Health. Wow! Well done!

And some new things...

- Nunnykirk 10k: I've just had confirmation that our first ever Nunnykirk 10k has been given the go-ahead for the evening of Wednesday, 16th August. Thanks to our Landlord Michael Orde and to John Trevelyan for their support. We're hoping around 100-150 runners will take part. I would be very happy to hear from you if you would like to help with the event, on the day or before. The event is being organised by us in conjunction with RunNation, and details can be found at: <http://www.runnation.co.uk/race/run-northumberland-nunnykirk10k/>
- Breakfast Club: With a few of our cherubs wishing to arrive earlier, we're considering running a Breakfast Club where, for £5 per day, Day pupils could arrive at 8am, take breakfast with Boarders, and then be supervised until start of school. I realise not everyone will be able to take advantage of this, but would like to know if you would be interested, and on which days. Initially we would run this for a trial period.

And lastly...

Weekly News: I'm now writing most of my weekly ramblings by Thursday evening, and will send it Friday morning. Events on the Friday will therefore usually be included the following week, but on the plus side it might give you a chance to read what's been happening so you can quiz your young person the moment they walk through the door ;)

Have a super week! Barry (barryfrost.nunnykirk@gmail.com)

