



Manorfield Road,
Driffield,
East Yorkshire
YO25 5HR

2 October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Head's Round Up

Life at Driffield school continues apace, with September drawing to a close I am writing to update you on the various activities taking place in school. I have also included in this round up a reminder about how important attendance is in school. Students who miss one day or more a fortnight achieve one grade less in their GCSEs, on average, than their peers which is why it is one of our key school improvement target for this year.

Rewards system

We have moved to recording house points electronically on SIMS, so we have an accurate record of the achievement points your child has accumulated. We will be recognising and rewarding achievement more frequently, both in form time on a Friday and at the end of each term.

SIMS app

We have purchased the SIMS app, which provides parents with up to date information about their child, such as achievement points and allows you to check their timetable to help them get ready for the next day at school. We are currently trialling this with parents who are also staff at the school, before rolling out to all parents. In order for you to access this we do need to hold an email address for you. So if you haven't already, can you please provide the office with the email address you wish us to use.

Year 6 open evening

If you missed open evening on Wednesday 20th September or you have further questions about life at Driffield School and Sixth form we will be holding a further event on Wednesday 25 October from 6-7.30pm. If you wish to attend please email Mrs Worthington on jworthington@driffieldschool.org.uk to confirm by Friday 20 October.

Good School Attence - Every Day Counts!

Good attendance at school maximises your child's educational opportunities and helps them achieve their full potential. Regular attendance improves social skills and helps them develop good friendships and relationships. Attending school regularly and on time has a positive impact on learning and progress and therefore the best life chances. Our students strive to maintain high level of attendance and appreciate that this prepares them for their future adult life and the world of work where good attendance and punctuality is required.

The Government considers that any student with attendance of 90% and below is in the category of 'persistent absence' and we work extremely hard to reduce the number of students in this category. Please consider where your child's attendance sits in the table below and how many lessons they are missing.

Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately this no. weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	340 lessons

Personal Development Day

On Wednesday 11th October 2017 we are holding our first whole school Personal Development Day for the 2017-18 school year. The day is to promote Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance, as well as Personal, Social and Health Education.

As part of this **year 9** students will be involved in a range of activities, including talks from KCOM and the Fire Service, as well as physical activities with the RAF and the Tigers Trust. All students therefore should attend school in their PE kits. They do not need to bring a change of clothing with them as they can remain in their PE kits for the full day.

All year groups should arrive at school for the normal registration time of 8.40am and **year 10** student's on the trip to Scarborough will be returning before the end of the day.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs R Mortimer.

Year 10 and Year 11 settling in evening

This takes place on Thursday 5th October 2017. The event has been organised in order to give you more information on how to support your child's studies.

The evening will run from 6-8pm, with talks for each year group as follows:

- Talk for Year 10 parents at 6pm in West Hall
- Talk for Year 11 parents at 7pm in West Hall

The talks will be given by myself, Mr Evans, Deputy Headteacher, and Mr Andrews, Head of Sixth Form. Available for further questions in the west canteen will be Mr McDonald, Mrs Hogben and Mrs Backhouse, Directors of English, Maths and Science respectively. We will also provide parents with a support booklet which contains various hints and tips, as well as giving more information on exams and revision materials.

Mrs F Warren, SENCO will be present and available for students and parents in WB1. If you wish to make an appointment with Mrs Warren, please email Mrs Worthington (jworthington@driffieldschool.org.uk).

Parents are asked to sign in at the desks in the west foyer. Refreshments will be available in the West Canteen all evening. The school shop will also be open in the west canteen, where you will be able to purchase a range of revision guides.

Careers Event

A Careers Event is being held at Tickton Grange Hotel in Willerby on Monday 23rd October 2017. The event is running from 1.30-4pm for students and 4pm-7pm for students and parents.

The event is for young people aged 14-25 with additional needs and their parent carers. It will provide young people and their parent carers with the chance to gain information about the opportunities available to them when leaving school, activity groups and much more.

If you would like to attend the event, or would like further information, please contact FISH (Families Information Services Hub) on 01482 396469 or e-mail fish@eastriding.gov.uk. Places are limited, and you need to book by Monday 2nd October stating any transport and childcare needs.

Sixth Form open evening

The sixth form open evening will be held on Thursday 26th October. The event will take place in the ACE building from 6.00-8.00pm with all Post 16 subjects represented at a subject fayre. There will be a presentation from Mr Andrews in the West Hall from 6.00- 6.20pm for the X half of the year group and 6.30-6.50 for the Y half of the year group.

2017 saw an increase in our performance as a truly outstanding Year 13 cohort excelled, with progress in the top 30% nationally. Additionally we saw record numbers secure competitive apprenticeships with major companies such as Rolls Royce and Airbus, whilst 86% of students applying to University secured their first choice, with nearly a third going to the prestigious Russell Group Universities.

This night is an opportunity for students and parents to speak to staff and investigate the large range of courses that we offer here. These conversations can be essential in starting to determine a pathway for their future. Students and parents can also find out about the range of programmes that we offer to support student applications for apprenticeships, careers in medicine and an Oxbridge application. Guidance is one of our greatest strengths and it is the quality of the relationships that students develop with staff here, where they are valued as an individual rather than as a number, that will enable them to succeed. We are a community that will support students through an exciting period of their life, helping them transition into an independent young adult ready to take their place in the world.

Twilight Bus service

We are pleased to confirm that the Twilight Bus Service Green Route has now been extended with immediate effect. Students wishing to take the service, which operates on a Monday and Thursday night, to either Octon & Thwing, Wold Newton, Rudston or Burton Fleming must reserve a place at the LRC by the end of lunchtime on the day of travel.



TWILIGHT BUS SERVICE

GREEN ROUTE

THE GREEN ROUTE
Operates on Monday & Thursday throughout
the school year

KC Cars departs at 5.00pm

Departs from:
Rear of Driffield Leisure Centre

GREEN ROUTE
MINIBUS SERVICE
5PM SPORTS CENTRE



Stops at:
Scarborough Road/Long Lane
Kilham (Bay Horse)
Langtoft (Kilham Road roundabout)
Langtoft (Ship Inn)
Octon & Thwing *
Wold Newton *
Rudston *
Burton Fleming *

Tickets:
Collect a book of green tickets from the LRC.
Fill in your destination (nearest village), the date you
are travelling, your year group and the activity you
attended. Give a completed ticket to the bus driver
each time you travel.

* For on request destinations, you must book at the
LRC by lunchtime on the day of travel

KEY:		BUS STOPS IN VILLAGE
		BUS STOPS ON MAIN ROAD - STUDENTS WALK/PARENTS COLLECT
		EXTENSION ON REQUEST ALL NIGHTS

Students without a valid ticket will not be able to travel.

Tickets are only valid for those routes and times advertised.

I will write to you again in two weeks with more updates from around the school

Yours faithfully

D Pickering
Head of School