

Newsletter

JULY 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian

Needless to say it has been another very busy year and we are all looking forward to the summer holidays. However, we're also keeping our fingers crossed for the many students who will be receiving their GCSE and A level results in August, (further details on the arrangements for the collection of results can be found inside). We hope that we will be seeing many of our Year 11s return in Y12, where Mr Andrews will be working alongside Mr Myers as joint Head of Sixth Form. I would also like to send our best wishes to all those students who will be moving on to pastures new in September.

You may remember from the last newsletter that we have been carrying out a consultation on the school's aims and values over recent months. (I will be sharing the outcomes with you in the first newsletter of the new academic year). However, during the summer term we have also been undertaking an extensive review of our Positive Behaviour for Learning Policy (PBFL). This has resulted in a number of significant changes (see inside for further details) as we continue our drive towards the best possible standards of behaviour. I will be explaining the changes to all students in a series of special House assemblies on the first day back (Wed 7 September) and setting out our expectations for the year ahead.

On a related note, the Student Executive Council have been working with Miss Ramsay on providing clear guidance for students and staff on the uniform policy. They have now produced a series of pictures which will be displayed in all classrooms to illustrate the 'dos and don'ts'. Perhaps the most important aspect to clarify remains 'Outdoor Wear' and so I have included again the additional guidance placed in the October 2010 newsletter. Essentially, we will be asking students not to wear items such as tracksuit tops, which some currently use as an alternative to a school cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt. Whilst the outdoor coat can be of any colour we do ask that it is genuinely a coat that will keep them suitably warm and dry!

I am also sending this letter out to parents of Year 6 students so they are in receipt of further background information about the school.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank staff for their hard work this year and wish all students and parents a happy and safe summer holiday.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Jones'.

S Jones
Acting Headteacher



Exam Results

A2 - Thursday 18 August - 10.00am - Sixth Form Annexe (former Y13 centre)

AS - Thursday 18 August - 2.00pm - Sixth Form Annexe

GCSE - Thursday 25 August 2011 - 10.30am - Sixth Form Annexe - *you will need your clearance letter to collect results*

If you will not be here to collect your results, please bring in a stamped addressed envelope before results day. It is school policy not to give results over the phone.

If you wish someone to collect your results on your behalf, they will need a letter written and signed by you authorising collection.



Driffield School Association

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 18 September — Car Boot Sale - Driffield School (£5 per pitch), 9 am - 12 noon (setting up from 8.00 am)

The next meeting of the DSA will be on **Monday 12 September at 7.00 pm in the West Annexe** when we will elect a new Chair Person. If you are interested please come along and meet other parents.

Craft Fair - The next Driffield School Craft Fair will be held on **Sunday 27 November**

Last Day of Term: Friday 22 July 2011

School will end at 2.25 pm on Friday 22 July. Buses have been arranged as usual. Please note that this day will be a non-uniform day. The Student Executive Council has elected for the funds raised to be donated to good causes.

Students participating in the non-uniform day are asked to donate at least 50p to the good causes in the usual way. Thank you!

'Blincoe'

The Performing Arts Department would like to invite you to our forthcoming performances of the play 'Blincoe'. This play is written by our drama colleague Mr Simon Davey and explores the lives of working children in the nineteenth century. The cast have all been chosen from years 7 to 9. The performances take place on Tuesday 19 July and Thursday 21 July in the North Hall.

The evening will begin at 7pm and will finish around 9pm. I hope that you will be able to join us and I look forward to seeing you there. Tickets are available from the Performing Arts office and are priced at £3 or £2 for concessions.

J. Watson
Head of Performing Arts

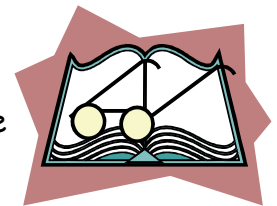
LRC News

Tesco Vouchers

Thank you very much for all the Tesco vouchers you collected and sent in. They have now been sent off and equipment ordered for the PE department and also a new digital camera has been ordered for pupils and teachers to borrow for use in lessons and after school activities.

Nestle Box Tops

We are still collecting these so please send any you have into the LRC.



Author Visit

Sophia Bennett, author of the Threads series visited the LRC on Monday 4 July. Sophia took a creative writing workshop for Year 7 and 8 AGT during period 5 and also an after school session with some pupils from the Creative Writing Workshop, pupils from the Authors' Retreat reading club and pupils from the Reading Champions group. Pupils who had read her books also joined this session. Sophia talked about her life as an author and how she created her books and characters, answered many questions and signed lots of books, posters and postcards.



SPIERS BANK HOUSE



The annual Open Day will take place on Sunday 2 October and is open to all pupils and their parents, carers, families and friends.

Doors open at 12.00 pm and close at 3.00 pm

The weather will be fine and there will be a warm welcome with tea and biscuits. Why not make a day of it? There are lots of woodland and moorland walks and the local hostels offer excellent real ales and lunches.

You may even find yourself volunteering to join or help the Committee!

PE REMINDER

SPIERS BANK HOUSE



A follow-up plea regarding the Trust's conservation work at our field centre.

If anyone could provide us with large bamboo poles or suggest a possible contact we would be very grateful to hear from them.

Celebration Evening

This evening was held on Wednesday 13 July. Large numbers of students and parents attended in order to recognise the many contributions of our students.

Congratulations to all award winners!



Could we remind parents of the following safety guidelines for Physical Education lessons.

The new trend of 'fashion' plimsolls and basketball boots are not regarded as suitable footwear—they do not give the necessary support required for physical activity.

Sports Day

This took place on Tuesday 12 July. We had an excellent competition from a large number of student participants—four school Athletic records broken!



Thank you to students and staff for all their hard work supporting such a wonderful day!



On behalf of the PE Department and whole school can we please thank all the students, parents and carers who have supported the extra curricular activities throughout the year. Your help with transport, support and continued encouragement has enabled us to run practices and teams throughout all age groups with success in many areas.

On this note, we are always looking for sponsors who may be willing to help us with new kits for the teams.

If you feel you may be interested please contact Mr A Duke, Head of PE on 01377 253631.

Many thanks
PE Department

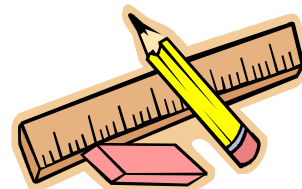
Year 6 Induction Day

This took place on Thursday 7 July when we met for the first time students from all of our partner primary schools and beyond. This was tremendously successful and we are looking forward to working with our new Year 7 students in September.

On the first day of term students should report to their form rooms. If they have forgotten where this is they should report to their House building office.

School Equipment for September

Can we please ask parents that their children come back to school with a FULLY EQUIPPED pencil case: pen, spare pens, pencils, coloured pencils (not felt or jelly pens), eraser, ruler, angle measurer/protractor, compass and calculator. Thank you!



Academic Year 2011/2012

Autumn Term 2011	Staff training day	Monday 5 September
	Staff training day	Tuesday 6 September
	Term start	Wednesday 7 September
	Half term start	Monday 24 October
	Half term return	Monday 31 October
	Term end	Friday 16 December
	Staff training day	Monday 19 December
	Staff training day	Tuesday 20 December
Spring Term 2012	Staff training day	Wednesday 4 January
	Term start	Thursday 5 January
	Half term start	Monday 20 February
	Half term return	Monday 27 February
	Term end	Friday 30 March
Summer Term 2012	Term start	Monday 16 April
	Bank Holiday	Monday 7 May
	Half term start	Monday 4 June
	Half term return	Monday 11 June
	Term end	Friday 20 July

Academic Year 2012/13

Autumn Term 2012	Staff training day	Monday 3 September
	Staff training day	Tuesday 4 September
	Term start	Wednesday 5 September
	Half term start	Monday 29 October
	Half term return	Monday 5 November
	Term end	Friday 21 December
Spring Term 2013	Staff training day	Monday 7 January
	Term start	Tuesday 8 January
	Half term start	Monday 11 February
	Half term return	Monday 18 February
	Term end	Friday 22 March
Summer Term 2013	Staff training day	Monday 8 April
	Term start	Tuesday 9 April
	Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May
	Half term start	Monday 27 May
	Half term return	Monday 3 June
	Term end	Friday 19 July

EXAM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012

w/c Monday 26 September	- Year 7 Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT's)
Tuesday 27 September	- Y11 Maths Mock Exam
Monday 10 October	- 2x House Photos
Tuesday 11 October	- 4 x House, Year 12 and Year 13 group Photos - Year 7 and Year 10 individual photos
Wednesday 9 November	- Y11 GCSE Maths Exams and Y10 Modular Maths
Monday 14 November	- Y11 GCSE Maths Exams and Y10 Modular Maths
Tuesday 15 November	- Y11 GCSE Modular Science Exams Resits (resits charged per unit)
Thursday 17 November	- Y11 GCSE Modular Maths Exam & Y10 Modular Maths
w/c 28 November	- Y11 French / Spanish Orals
w/c Monday 5 December	- Y11 Mock Exams Week
<u>January 2012</u>	- 9 th Jan- 3 rd Feb - AS/A2 January Exams
Wednesday 11 January	- Y11 Maths iGCSE Exam
Thursday 12 January	- Y10 Science GCSE Exam
Friday 13 January	- Y10/Y11 Business Unit 1 Exam (resits charged)
Monday 16 January	- Y11 Maths iGCSE Exam
Wednesday 18 January	- Y10 Science GCSE Exam
Friday 20 January	- Y10 Science GCSE Exam
Friday 20 January	- Y10/Y11 Geography Unit 1 Exam (Resits charged) Unconfirmed if Y10 or Y11 will complete at this time
Tuesday 24 January	- Y11 GCSE Triple Science Biology Exam
Tuesday 24 January	- Y10/Y11 Geography Unit 2 Exam (Resits charged) Unconfirmed if Y10 or Y11 will complete at this time
Wednesday 25 January	- Y10/Y11 GCSE Health and Social Care Exam (Resits charged)
Thursday 26 January	- Y11 GCSE Triple Science Chemistry Exams
Monday 30 January	- Y11 GCSE Triple Science Physics Exams

EXAM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012

Monday 30 January	- Y10/Y11 Geography Unit 3 (Resits charged) Unconfirmed if Y10 will complete at this time
Tuesday 31 January	- Y11 GCSE Dance Practical Mock Exam
w/c 6 February	- Y10 French / Spanish Orals
Thursday 1 March	- Y10/Y11 GCSE Modular Science Exams (resits charged per unit)
Friday 2 March	- Y10/Y11 GCSE Modular Maths Exam (resits charged per unit)
Monday 5 March	- Y10/Y11 GCSE Modular Maths Exam (resits charged per unit)
Tuesday 6 March	- Y11 Childcare Exam
Wednesday 7 March	- Y10/Y11 GCSE Modular Maths Exam (resits charged per unit)
Thursday 8 March	- Performance Review Day
w/c 12 March	- Y11 French / Spanish Orals
Thursday 22 March	- Y11 English Language Mock Exam
March/April/May 2012	- KS5 French / Spanish Orals
Monday 14 May until the end of June - Summer external exams: (AS/A2/GCSE)	
There may also be a number of other Y10 exams in a variety of subjects in the summer series	
Monday 21 May	- Y10 Triple Science GCSE Biology Exam
Thursday 24 May	- Y10 Triple Science GCSE Chemistry Exam
Wednesday 30 May	- Y10 Triple Science GCSE Physics Exam
Monday 11 June	- Y10 GCSE Modular Maths Exam
Tuesday 12 June	- Y10 GCSE Science Exam
Wednesday 13 June	- Y10 GCSE Modular Maths Exam
Friday 15 June	- Y10 GCSE Science Exam
w/c Monday 18 June	- Work Experience/Enterprise Week 1
Monday 18 June	- Y10 Geography Unit 2 Exam
Tuesday 19 June	- Y10 GCSE Modular Maths Exam
Wednesday 20 June	- Y10 GCSE Science Exam

EXAM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012

W/c Monday 25 June	- Work Experience/Enterprise Week 2
Tuesday 26 June	- Y8 Maths Test
w/c 2 July	- Y10 French / Spanish Orals



DRIFFIELD SCHOOL UNIFORM

Key Stage 3 Students (Years 7, 8 and 9) - Students must wear:

- A navy polo shirt with the school logo stitched or heat sealed on.
- A navy v-neck jumper, navy sweatshirt or navy cardigan all with the school logo stitched or heat sealed on.
- Plain black trousers or a plain black skirt. (*no shorter than knee length*)
- Sensible plain black or brown shoes or boots, or completely black trainers.

A plain black or brown belt (only if required), with a simple fastening

Key Stage 4 Students (Years 10 and 11) - Students must wear:

- A plain white shirt or blouse with a collar and the school logo stitched or heat sealed on, or a white polo shirt with the school logo stitched or heat sealed on.
- A black v-neck jumper, black sweatshirt or black cardigan all with the school logo stitched or heat sealed on.
- Plain black trousers or plain black skirt. (*no shorter than knee length*)
- Sensible plain black or brown shoes or boots, or completely black trainers.

A plain black or brown belt (only if required), with a simple fastening

Students are not allowed to wear the following items:

- Shorts of any length or style
- Inappropriately short skirts (*shorter than knee length*)
- Jeans, or denim trousers or denim skirts of any type or colour

- Pinstripe, checked or patterned trousers or skirts
- Clothing displaying brand names or brand logos
- Open toe or backless shoes
- Fashion boots or 'Ugg' style boots (plain black or brown boots are permitted).
- Stiletto heeled shoes or boots of any type
- Fashion, studded or wide belts
- 'Hoodies'
- Coloured t-shirts underneath school shirts or school polo shirts

Hair Colour, Hair Style and Make-up

Natural hair colours only are permitted. Hairstyles must not include extreme colours or styles. Excessive use of make up is not allowed.

Jewellery

- One pair of studs or small sleeper earrings is allowed. No other body piercing is allowed - this includes the use of retainers.
- One plain ring may be worn on either hand.
- One watch may be worn
- One discreet necklace may be worn
- One discreet bracelet on each arm, may be worn.

All permitted jewellery must be removed when requested by any member of the school staff as appropriate e.g. during PE, D & T or other lessons and activities where it may pose a health and safety risk

Uniform (Additional Guidance)

Despite our best attempts to make the uniform policy as simple and straightforward as possible, there will inevitably be an ongoing need for us to adapt to the vagaries of fashion. Clearly, it is human nature to want to test the boundaries and some of our students can be highly inventive in their efforts to individualise their appearance.

The information below is intended to provide additional context and guidance on specific issues. We hope you find it helpful and would like to thank you again for your support.

Outdoor Wear: We ask students to ensure that this is clearly an outdoor coat that will keep them suitably warm and dry. If students are wearing appropriate school jumpers, cardigans or sweatshirts then there is no need for additional clothing (aside from the outdoor coat). We also ask that students remove hats and scarves as they enter a building.

Footwear: We do allow students to wear black trainers as an alternative to shoes, but these should be all black.

Trousers: Tight Lycra trousers or jean styles (patch pockets, rivets) are not appropriate for wear in school. Trousers should not be tucked into boots.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBfL)

After consulting with staff and students we have amended the PBfL policy, hopefully simplifying steps for dealing with unwanted behaviour in the classroom and re-emphasising rewards for wanted behaviour. We have replaced the wording of **Warning** with **Sanction** - enclosed is a summary with the key changes highlighted (the full policy is available on the school website).

We are also placing greater emphasis on the use of the planner as a means of communicating regularly with parents. We hope these changes will prove to be effective and will continue to monitor its use.

The Rewards for Wanted Behaviour

These centre on the premise that students respond better to praise, encouragements and rewards for wanted behaviour or good/hard work, than to criticism or sanctions. Rewards improve behaviour, motivation, work rate, morale, personal and collective standards and group dynamics. Applied properly, rewards contribute to lower stress levels and can inspire originality and creativity.

Rewards:

- Must be applied consistently. They are a key means of supporting teaching and learning, even when in the non-verbal form.
- Should be used to acknowledge students who follow instructions and choose to behave responsibly as well as for good work.
- Should be frequent and meaningful, but not cheapened by excess.
- Should be talked about and used - especially immediately after giving instructions. Successes should be shared.
- Should relate to the individual student and/or the whole group.
- Should be indicated immediately although can be given later. Lengthy delays should be avoided (e.g. end of term/ year).
- Should be sensitive to the age and personality of the student to whom they apply. Sometimes private praise is preferred.
- Can be earned by individuals for themselves or by individuals/ groups for the whole class, form or House. They should enrich the ethos and life of the school community.
- Should normally occur before the warnings - usually quickly after instructions to students who are doing what staff want.
- Should be given in the approximate **ratio 4:1** to warnings.

Positive Behaviour for Learning: Classroom and Department Rewards

Making The Right Choices!

- ✓ Public and private verbal praise or acknowledgement such as displaying work or sharing it with the rest of the class.
- ✓ House Points.
- ✓ Positive Post Cards.
- ✓ Department Leader commendation certificates.
- ✓ *Senior Leader presentations (e.g. commendations) within the classroom.*

Positive Behaviour for Learning: House Rewards

- ✓ Public and private verbal praise / mention in assembly.
- ✓ House Point Certificates (with prizes)
- ✓ Trips for highest performing tutor groups and non-uniform day for highest performing house.
- ✓ Positive Post Cards.
- ✓ House Leader and senior staff commendations.
- ✓ *Celebration Assembly every term (to include attendance success). Termly prize draw.*
- ✓ Celebration of Success Evening nominations.

Positive Behaviour for Learning: Whole School Rewards

- ✓ All Staff to have access to House Point Stamps.
- ✓ Senior Staff Special Stamps and Headteacher Commendations.

- ✓ Reward for high performing Y11 (e.g. reduced price Prom ticket)
- ✓ Awards Evening nominations and Governors' Awards.

House Points

Ink stamps in order to award House Points will be provided for all staff. They are to be placed in the student planner in the designated grids. Students should be awarded House Points for:

- Positive attitude / behaviour
- Attainment
- Excellent and much improved effort

Teachers should look to reward all students for something they have achieved at least once per half-term, if not every lesson - think positive! As a guide subject teachers should award two House Points as a maximum for one piece of work. **Normally, at least 2 House Points should be awarded every lesson to at least 2 individuals for positive attitude/ behaviour.**

If students are completing projects/topics it may be beneficial to award House Points on an on-going basis, rather than at the end. The balance should be towards **awarding** rather than not awarding House Points. Teachers must ensure that every student has equal access to House Points. Subject teachers should stamp House Points in the pages of the student planner. House Points can be awarded to a teaching or form group en-bloc where appropriate.

Form Tutors may also award House Points at their discretion. Termly totals for each house will be published.

During Years 10 and 11 students' efforts must also be rewarded with House Points. These are awarded for wanted behaviour, projects, coursework and work completed in a series of lessons. In certain cases House Points may be awarded for an outstanding piece of work or behaviour.

House Points are monitored by Form Tutors who trigger referrals for certificates and rewards at the appropriate times by emailing to address 'House points' or 'HP'.

House Points	AWARD	Marked by	KS3 Prize	KS4 Prize
75 House Points	BRONZE AWARD	Certificate in assembly	Pen and Prize Ticket	<i>Alternative prize & Prize Ticket</i>
150 House Points	SILVER AWARD	Certificate in assembly	Pen drive and Prize Ticket	<i>Alternative prize & Prize Ticket</i>
300 House Points	GOLD AWARD	Certificate in assembly via Senior Teacher	£10 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket	<i>£10 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket</i>
600 House Point	PLATINUM AWARD	Certificate in via assembly Teacher	£10 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket	<i>£10 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket</i>
1200 House Points	DIAMOND AWARD	Certificate in assembly via Senior Teacher	£20 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket	<i>£20 Gift Voucher and Prize Ticket</i>

A termly prize draw will take place in each house with a prize of the value to £100. Other prizes (e.g. £5 vouchers for good or improved attendance) will also be issued at this time.

A letter of commendation will be sent to students during the second half of the summer term gaining 50+ (but not 75) House Points each year.

At individual House level House Point totals to be calculated half-termly with Tutor Groups ranked 1 to 10. Attendance and punctuality totals also to be ranked by the Information Services Team half-termly and Tutor Groups to be ranked 1 to 10. Progress Checks average scores for Tutor Groups to be ranked and Sports Totals also incorporated (Sports Day / House events). All totals to be calculated end of year and the most successful Tutor Group in each House can have a trip out of school for a whole day. The most successful House to have an additional non-uniform day.

Consistently high performing Year 11 students will receive a reduction for the Prom tickets.

The Sanctions for Unwanted Behaviour

One central aim of PBfL is to actively discourage unwanted behaviour and therefore avoid disturbance or disruption in lessons which prevent students from learning effectively. Well prepared and appropriate lesson planning will help to produce a positive climate in the classroom, but behaviour checks should also be used to prevent unwanted behaviour.

It is anticipated that students should be made aware of their inappropriate behaviour and be given an opportunity to make a positive choice about improving their behaviour before the formal sanctions are applied.

Sanctions for Unwanted Behaviour: Making the Wrong Choices!

IN THE CLASSROOM:

- χ **SANCTION 1:** First formal sanction. Student's name is recorded and may be asked to move.
- χ **SANCTION 2:** Class teacher detention and possible removal to shadow timetable - CL & FT informed and recorded as S2 in planner. If the student has three S2's recorded in their planner during one week this will result in a one hour detention after school on a Thursday.

In the Case of Repeated Unwanted Behaviour

CURRICULUM LEADER:

- χ **SANCTION 3:** The Department Leader will consider department detention, subject report and changing teaching group (in conjunction with appropriate AHT). Parents will be contacted. Head of House, House Tutor and Form Tutor informed. Referral to HOH for a period time in Seclusion may be considered.

HOUSE LEADER:

- χ **SANCTION 4:** Head of House, House Tutor and Form Tutor involved. Parents will be called into school. Individual Behaviour Plan with behaviour targets will be considered. Seclusion/ Exclusion considered for failure to achieve targets.

In the Case of Very Serious Behaviour

Examples include:

- χ Repeated deliberate defiance.
- χ Serious bullying including repeated verbal or physical abuse, sexist and racist remarks.

- χ Deliberate damage to property or theft.
- χ Fighting, swearing, spitting.
- χ Drugs, alcohol, smoking or the abuse of any other substance.
- χ Other illegal or dangerous acts.

ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER/ DEPUTY HEADTEACHER/ HEADTEACHER:

- χ **SANCTION 5:** Senior staff involved. Immediate removal from lesson to seclusion. A Pastoral Support Plan and Final Warning will be considered. Parents invited into school. Permanent Exclusion may be considered.