

# Sherburn High School

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Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope everyone managed to have a good break and feels ready for the summer term! As always, it's a busy one; with GCSE and A level examinations, welcoming our new Year 7 students, Bushcraft, Flamingo Land and our summer concert to list a few events taking place.

## April is Teenage Cancer Awareness Month

In last week's assemblies I spoke to students about Teenage Cancer Awareness Month. Only in its second year, this year the theme is about empowering young people so that they are aware of the symptoms of different types of cancer and give them a voice in their treatment.

As a school we are fund raising for Bone Cancer Research Trust, a charity which gets no funding from the government to support families or undertake research.

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April we will be hosting a charity day to fund their support and research.

Parents/carers are encouraged to pay a £1 via ParentPay to enable their child to wear non-uniform and students are encouraged to bring in some change to visit the tuck shop!

#### Home to School Travel Consultation

As you will be aware the Council is currently consulting on changes to the North Yorkshire (NY) Home to School Travel Policy. This is available via the NY website <u>Home to school travel policy</u> -<u>consultation | North Yorkshire Council</u>

Please note the deadline for the consultation including any responses has been extended to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

#### Parent Community Network

Please see the attached poster which invites parents/carers to a parent/carer brunch this Friday at the Old Girls' School.

#### **Revised Mobile Phone Policy**

Prior to the Easter holiday I spoke to students in assemblies about our revised Mobile Phone Policy. In summary, the core principles of our policy (see below) remain the same; that is:

- Mobile phones, which are brought into school, must be turned off (not placed on silent) and stored out of sight (in a bag, not pockets) immediately as the student arrives at the school gate. They must remain turned off, and out of sight, until the student has left the site at the end of the day
- If a mobile phone is seen by a member of staff, that member of staff will be required to confiscate it immediately. The member of staff will log the confiscation and place the mobile device at reception for safe storage.

The key difference is that:

- On the first occasion, on which a student's phone is confiscated it will be available for collection by the student from reception at the end of the school day. Parents/carers will be contacted to inform them of this breach of the school rules.
- On the second occasion, on which a student's phone is confiscated, it will be available for collection by their parent/carer from reception at the end of the **next** school day. Phones can be collected from reception between the end of the school day until 4.00pm, Monday to Thursdays, and until 3.30 pm on a Friday.
- On the third occasion, a student's mobile phone is confiscated and a meeting will be arranged for parents/carers to meet with their Head of Year or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. At this meeting the phone will be returned.

The policy can be read in full on our school website.

### Year 11 Updates

GCSE practical examinations began last week with Drama on Friday and this week it's the turn of our Creative subjects. Well, done to our actors last week and good luck to our artists this week!

On Friday, Year 11 will be presented with their Year 11 Hoodies. Students can wear these to school from Monday, but must continue to wear the remainder of their school uniform (minus their blazers).

Preparations are underway for a special "Good Luck" assembly just prior to the written examination papers – please can parents/carers ensure that their good luck cards and messages are with Mr Darnbrough by 4pm on Friday 19th April..

#### And finally...

We've had an incredible year so far, with a fantastic report from Ofsted and yet again record numbers of students applying for a place with us in September – and I have no doubt that those students in Years 11 and 13 will do themselves proud in the weeks ahead! But, if at any point during what can be a very stressful time for students, your child starts to worry, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Jackson, Head of Sixth Form or Mr Darnbrough, Head of Year 11, so that we can do our very best to support them,

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley Headteacher