
MALTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 November 2007

Healthy School Award

For the past six months we have been working towards gaining the 'Healthy School Award'. This is a national award which aims to get schools to promote healthy lifestyles. It covers all aspects of school life, healthy eating, physical activity, emotional health and well being as well as personal social and health education. Students will already have noticed a number of special events.

Recently, students in Year 11 had a presentation about safety on the roads and the effect of drugs on driving and a similar session is planned for Year 10 about driving and alcohol.

On Wednesday, 10 October normal lessons were cancelled and everyone in the school took part in special activities. For students in Years 10 and 11, this was based around coursework requirements but Year 8 had a 'Healthy Living' half-day. Students not only cooked some very healthy dishes but also had the opportunity to sample these! They also did work on healthy packed lunches and on the importance of daily exercise and how walking contributed to good health. We certainly ensured students did the required amount that day by combining the activity with a half-day river study with a route exceeding 3 miles. All Year 8 students were given a piece of fruit kindly donated by Morrisons Supermarket. Many thanks to them for this generous contribution to the day.

Year 10 did some HIV awareness work. A number of other special activities are being planned for other year groups over the school year.

School Travel Plan

To obtain the Healthy School Award, a school has to have a School Travel Plan. Luckily ours was produced in 2004 and almost all of it has been implemented! Some of these changes involved

work by the Highways Authority, including the installation of the crossings by East Mount and road markings near the school.

The school was given funding for two measures; secure cycle parking and a paved footpath from Broughton Road. The footpath is on hold for two reasons; firstly, that we have just had security fencing installed and there is now no access to the school from Broughton Road and, secondly, if the hoped for Sports Centre is built on our site, the positioning of a path linking the school to the centre will need to be part of that scheme. However, we do have new secure cycle storage. This is locked during the day and opened at the end of school. We are pleased that this seems to have increased the number of students cycling to school but we are concerned that many students are not wearing adequate safety equipment.

We would be grateful if parents could ensure students who cycle wear a helmet and some high visibility items so that they can clearly be seen by other road users. In the spring we will be organising some cycling activities including a visit by the 'Bike Doctor' who will look at the safety of cycles in school.

Focus Groups

As I said at the beginning, I want to try to include parents more in the award. I would like to set up a number of small focus groups to discuss specific aspects of the award, such as our drug and sex and relationship policy or even how to encourage more students to cycle or walk to school. If you would like to get involved, please leave me a message at the school office. It would be useful if you are particularly interested in any specific aspect to let me know what this is. I hope most meetings will take place immediately after school. I will try to keep you informed of work related to the Healthy Schools Award in future newsletters, so please watch this space.

Mrs Lovegrove, Assistant Head

Sports Centre Update

I wrote to the press this week urging public support for the long awaited decision on the Sports Centre which I had been led to believe would be taking place at the full council meeting at Ryedale House on Thursday 8th November at 6.30pm. ***This is now no longer the case so please do not attend Ryedale House on that night.***

Obviously, I am disappointed again by this further delay: particularly disappointed this time because I have been involved with district and county council officials in doing a lot of preparatory work on the project in August and September. This work I was told was all leading up to the council meeting next week

Nevertheless, I want to update you all on the work that has taken place:

- The County Council has been in discussion with the Fitzwilliam Estate to resolve issues surrounding the remaining restrictive covenants on the site.
- The County Council has carried out a facilities assessment at the school, proving that with the new development the school would still have well beyond the required minimum capacity for playing field space. The Council have prepared the application to the Secretary of State to gain the necessary consents for the project to go ahead.
- The school, the County Council and the District Council have thrashed out a draft Heads of Terms document.
- A joint usage schedule has been agreed by the various parties.
- On the back of that schedule the County Council have written to the District Council confirming the level of ongoing revenue funding that they will put into the project. This will cover all educational usage of the facilities, so there will be no question of the District Council inappropriately funding schooling.
- The County Council have carried out a needs assessment of the local primary schools and might consider funding (as part of their Children and Young People's Plan) the

necessary transport arrangements to allow these children to receive the two hours of quality PE that they are entitled to under the National Curriculum.

- There is also now the possibility that a new partner, Malton Tennis Club, may link in with the development and have new and improved facilities built on the school site next to the Sports Centre.

The importance of these developments is that everything has been done that can be done to provide a green light to this project. The only matter remaining is the capital finance. I have had a further meeting this week with district council officials to explore what else can be done to minimise the overall capital cost of the project to the district council.

As I understand it, the reports will now go to the Policy and Resources Committee of the District Council on 6th December. If that committee decides to present a positive report to the next Full Council on 17th January then there is a realistic chance that the sports centre will finally achieve the go-ahead. I must again thank many of you for your support in this matter and again urge all of you who wish to see this happen to make your views known in writing to your local councillor and to Janet Waggott at Ryedale House.

School Numbers Rise

The school roll has risen dramatically over the last few years, from a low of 486 in 1995, to the current high of 702. This includes a record 90 entrants to Sixth Form, as more students gain good GCSE results locally, and the continuing success shown by our excellent AS and A level results proves attractive.

6th Form Open Evening

Tuesday, 20 November 2007

7.00 pm at the West Wing Hall,
Malton School

Parents and students welcome

Trips and Activities

Lightwater Valley

Students in Years 8 to 13 who had done well in their work last year were rewarded with a trip to Lightwater Valley at the end of September. To qualify, students had to have gained fifty housepoints and not to have been in detentions. The entire theme park was booked by the school, which meant that queues were minimal. The whole day was a great success and all who went enjoyed the experience. Year 7 spent the day in school (their turn will come next year) working on an English project. Those who did not qualify had a day of normal subject lessons, plus one special lesson on ways to improve behaviour. The only thing we could not organise for the day was the weather - heavy rain all day unfortunately, but even this failed to dampen spirits.

Whitby Whaling Project

Last year 6th Form history students began a filming project based on the history of whaling in Ryedale in the 19th Century. We followed the story of peasants from Ryedale travelling to Whitby and setting out on a whaling ship, the Esk.

Students chose different roles in the project, which provided fantastic work experience. We worked alongside Ryedale Folk Museum and a camera crew from Leeds University. The roles include: researchers, script writers, script editors, costume designer, camera men (and women), sound men, actors, directors and producers. GCSE music students composed and played the sound track. Primary school children helped in the filming of some scenes.

We decided to film in News 24 style whereby people took on multiple roles, for example script writers became newsreaders. This scene was filmed in the York Evening Press Office which provided a realistic background. Last weekend students had the opportunity to film on the Endeavour just out of Whitby. The Press have been keeping up-to-date with the project by conducting interviews with us and attending a presentation event.

Preparations are now in full flow for the film premiere on **13th December**. Mrs Dore (Head of History) has the red carpet ready to be rolled out! The film will also be showing in the Ryedale Folk Museum throughout the year. The whole experience was enjoyed hugely by all involved and we gained many skills in a wide variety of areas.

Heather Quinn (Year 13)

Non-Uniform Days

The elected Senior Students in the Sixth Form (3 in Y13 and 3 in Y12) meet with the Headteacher once a fortnight to discuss sixth form and wider student issues. One particular responsibility that they have is organising the charitable fundraising that the student body carries out each year. One of the main sources of this fundraising is the provision of Non-Uniform Days. We have one of these each half-term, so six in total during an academic year. The Senior Students decide which charities will be supported by the proceeds of each Non-Uniform Day. The first of these took place on Friday 19th October and was in support of the Laura Crane Trust, a childrens' cancer charity. The date for the next non-uniform day is Friday 15th November and this will be in support of Children In Need. The remaining dates are still to be set but the students have identified the charities they want to support – these include Sport Relief in March, Plan International (a charity that supports children in the Third World) and Whizzkids – a national charity for disabled children. This year the Chair of *Whizzkids* is our own **Jamie Green** in Year 9. The students organise other events to support further charities during the year. At the moment they are working hard selling poppies for the British Legion. They do an excellent job and they gain personally from the experience. Please support their efforts and encourage them throughout the year.

REMINDER

Friday, 23 November 2007

**Staff training day –
SCHOOL CLOSED**

Snow and School Closure

Snow and ice seem a long way off at the moment but a reminder now may save problems later! All information about school closure for bad weather is passed to BBC Radio York and to Minster FM. PLEASE listen to the radio and PLEASE do not phone school to see if we are open or about to close. When the weather is bad we need to keep our phone lines clear for contacting school transport and helping individual students who might have difficulty getting home. Thank you.

Decisions on closure are taken on best advice available from the weather forecasts and the state of roads locally. Closure will be very rare and only carried out when it would be a clear health and safety risk to remain open.

Sports News

Hockey

The mixed GCSE Y11 hockey team so far this season have secured a number of wins in the area as follows:

Malton v Ryedale 5-3

Malton v Norton 2-0

Malton v Lady Lumleys 1-0

Year 11 students Fiona Marsden and Amy Jones have both been selected to train for the district area hockey team. Well done.

GCSE PE

The GCSE PE residential to East Barnby proved very successful, with many students climbing 'very severe' graded climbs. Several students have secured 10/10 for this activity which will be submitted as part of their GCSE. Well done to everyone.

Tennis

Well done to both Alice Brook (Year 11) and Fiona Marsden (Year 11) who have gained colours for tennis at county level. In the Senior Winter Tennis League regional level, Malton students are so far unbeaten and if their success continues they will proceed to the Nationals. Students involved are: Danny Alasfar and Jack Thackray; Gareth Webb and Fay Chapman; and Sarah Gilbank and Emma Marsden.

Cross country

The first cross country meeting was held recently in Scalby, Scarborough for the district area. Congratulations to William Spencer (Year 7) who came 1st. Well done also to Jemima Myers (Year 7) who came 4th and Simon Reeves in Year 10 who came 3rd in his section.

AUTUMN TERM 2007

November

T	06		Senior Maths Challenge
Th	08	19.30	Celebration Evening
F	09		Y13 assessments → home
F	16		Y11 assessments → home
M	19		Y12HSC Work placement week
T	20	19.00	6 th Form Open Evening
F	23		School closed – staff training day
M	26		Yr13 Parents Evening
W	28		Y12 assessments → home

December

M	03		Y11 exams commence
Th	06		Y7 settling in report home Y12 Parents Evening
T	11		Y7 review day Special Day
Th	13		Film Premier of "The Silent Land"
M	17		Concert Rehearsal
T	18		Christmas lunch
W	19		Concert
Th	20		Senior citizens
F	21		Last day of term

SPRING TERM 2008

January

M	07		School closed Staff training day
T	08	09.00	Spring Term commences (Wk 1)

DATES OF TERMS 2007-08

First Day

Last Day

Day Closures

M 3 September	F 19 October	M 3 September
M 29 October	F 21 December	F 23 November
M 7 January	F 8 February	M 7 January
M 18 February	Th 20 March	
M 7 April	F 23 May	<i>Bank holiday:</i> M 5 May
M 2 June	T 22 July	M 21 July T 22 July

