



Fulneck Senior School Inform

Spring Term 2019
Issue 10

A Note From The Principal



The warmest of welcomes back to school. I hope you have had a lovely half-term with your children.

Changes to the academic side of school life have caught the headlines in recent years. With reforms made nationally at A Level and GCSE to increase the rigor of these qualifications, media hype has inevitably focussed on what would happen to results. If the summer of 2018 was anything to go by, the answer seemed to be "very little"!

A much quieter revolution has been happening in another side of school life: sport. For many years, independent schools focussed all their energy and resources on the elite players and teams. The consequence of this unjust system was that many children left school with little appetite for sport and fitness. The big change in emphasis in recent years has been on sport for all. This has not been without due cause: the twin concerns over obesity and the mental health of our youngsters demand action.

Over the coming months, Fulneck School will be implementing changes to ensure that all our pupils experience a quality games programme. For some, it will still include team fixtures or the excellent scholars' programme put together by Mr Walker and his team. Pursuing excellence in terms of skills, decision-making and creativity will be their goal.

For others, it may focus more on personal well-being and self-confidence. The evidence that physical health impacts positively on emotional resilience is overwhelming. The Secretary of State for Education spoke recently of the need to build character in our children. In my experience, there is no doubt that learning to win with humility, to celebrate achievements together, to commiserate defeats together and to learn to lose graciously are all important skills for life learnt outside the classroom, whether that be in sport, drama, music or the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

One part of the changes is the start of a programme to enhance our sport and fitness facilities. As you may have seen on Twitter or Facebook, work has now started on our new sports pavilion, thanks to a kind donation in memory of former pupil and Yorkshire cricketer Major Booth and the fundraising carried out by parents last year. Weather permitting, we aim to open the new facility in June. More easily and speedily achieved has been the refurbishment of our fitness suite. With brand new and state of the art kit leased, it is a facility that all members of our community can enjoy.

Having entered the Pudsey 10k in June, I will certainly need to "enjoy" some time in the new fitness suite! I am running in aid of this year's chosen charity, The Candlelighters Trust, which supports children battling cancer. If you feel able to sponsor me, you can find details at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Paul-TAYLOR196>

With best wishes for the weekend.

Pavilion Update



You may have seen on social media last week, that work has now commenced on the demolition and construction of our new cricket pavilion. This exciting new build is happening thanks to a generous donation from the Booth family, along with money raised last year by parents and friends of the school. A huge thank you to everyone who has been involved. Once complete the pavilion will include changing areas, toilets and a fantastic kitchen/ bar area, making it a brilliant facility not only for our own pupils and parents, but also



the local clubs that utilise the site too. Work is anticipated to take approximately eighteen weeks and we are delighted that the project is being undertaken by local business Christopher Construction. Richard Christopher, Construction Director of the business, is a former pupil and current parent of Fulneck.

Dates For The Diary

Monday 4th March Sixth Form Parents' Evening, West Hall, 4pm

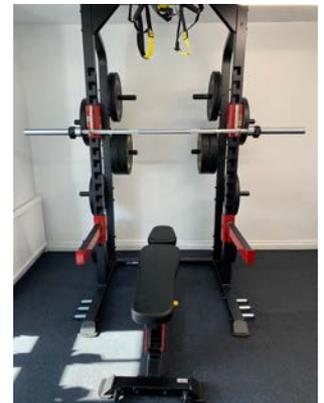
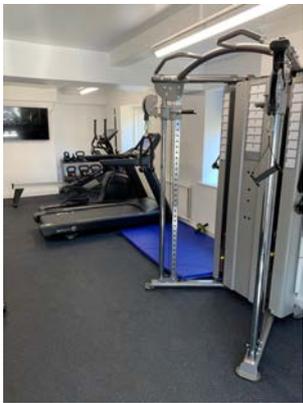
Thursday 7th March World Book Day

Thursday 21st March Year 7 Geography Trip to Malham

Monday 25th March Year 11 Parents' Evening, West Hall, 4pm

PE Refurbishment

Over the last few weeks, our maintenance team have been working hard to refurbish our in-house fitness suite. This facility has been upgraded with state of the art equipment to support the work of the PE Department. Our Sports Scholars and PE students have already been making use of the new gym equipment during their lessons and at the weekly Strength and Conditioning Club. There will be a grand opening later this term, so keep your eyes peeled for details!



Mock Interviews



On Monday Victoria Hopkins came into school to deliver mock interview sessions for our Year 10 students. In preparation for their upcoming work experience placements in June, Victoria gave the students an insight into some of the more frequently asked questions at job interviews and how to answer them; some students were even put to the test!

Victoria will be back in school over the next couple of weeks to run several more group sessions, as well as holding one to one interviews to those who have signed up. Our thanks once again go to Victoria for giving up her valuable time to help our students.



Skype Author Interview



During one of their English lessons, Year 7 had the privilege of talking via Skype to Oklahoma based author, Mariana Llanos. Mariana was awarded the Global Citizen Award in Arts by the World Experiences Foundation, for her contribution to multicultural literature. More recently she received the 2017 Human Rights Award from The United Nations Association of Oklahoma City.

Peruvian born Mariana commended our students for asking interesting and inquisitive questions in not only English, but in Spanish too. The group enjoyed the session and appreciated Mariana taking the time out of her busy schedule to share with them her interesting life experiences from across the pond!



GCSE Spanish Trip



Over the February half-term, our GCSE Spanish students went on a five day language immersion trip to Malaga. They were introduced to the Spanish culture and encouraged to develop their language speaking skills throughout the duration of the visit.

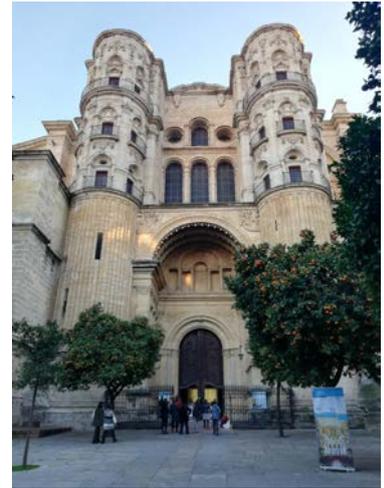
Malaga is situated in the southern region of Andalucia and is a lively city bursting with many interesting sights and attractions. Pupils explored the city's heritage by visiting iconic monuments including: the city's Cathedral (a fine example of Renaissance architecture), The Alcazaba (a Medieval Moorish fortress) and the Roman Amphitheatre. They also visited a number of museums such as The Pompidou Centre, CAC Malaga and The Automobile and Fashion Museum.

A highlight of the trip for our students was most definitely sampling a range traditional delicacies such as: tapas, chocolate con churros and tea tasting at a Moroccan style tea shop.

Another popular activity was a language exchange visit to a Spanish Secondary School and after a nervous start, our pupils were soon engaging in conversations, further enhancing their vocabulary and confidence to speak to others in a foreign language.

Towards the end of the experience pupils travelled to the nearby Spanish city of Granada, where they visited the iconic Alhambra Palace. Despite the busy itinerary, there was also free time to relax on the beach and shop around the old town and harbour before heading home.

It was an unforgettable experience for the students involved and we are sure that their recently improved skills will be put into practice as they work towards their GCSEs.



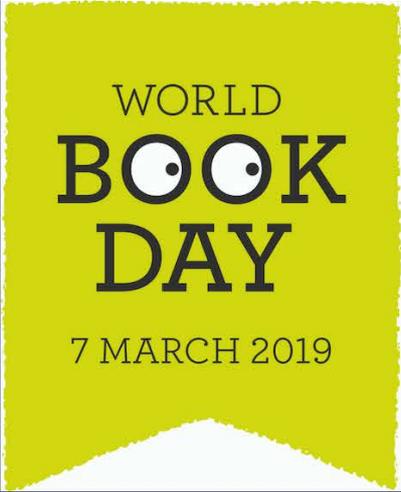
West Yorkshire Police School Cyber Competition



On Thursday 14th February, our Fulneck Cyber Warriors were amongst the six finalist schools who were invited to the West Yorkshire Police Training and Development Centre in Wakefield. Given that our young people of today are much more digitally aware than most adults, raising awareness of and tackling Cybercrime are particular focuses for our Police service in order to keep us safe. To help support this initiative, our Fulneck group presented their project about online safety at this prestigious event to a panel of judges and other finalists from schools across the county. Well done to those who took part!

U15 Football v Huddersfield Grammar





WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

7 MARCH 2019

DRESS UP FOR WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March 2019

Prizes will be given

We are asking that pupils come dressed as a famous literary character; characters must have appeared in a work of literature or graphic novel. If pupils are unsure of their choice, they should check with a member of staff. There is no expectation for students to spend money on fancy dress. In fact, we would like pupils to demonstrate their creative flair by fashioning a homemade costume. If your child does not wish to participate then he/she must come to school in uniform as usual. World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading.

On the day, each child will receive a £1 World Book Day book token that can either be exchanged for one of ten special £1 World Book Day books or used to get £1 off any book costing £2.99 or more. You can find out more about this year's books at www.worldbookday.com/books