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## Dear Parents

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year.

The start of the year is always a busy time, the summer's GCSE results are analysed in detail looking for any lessons that we can learn, and much effort is applied to ensuring that our new year 7 students settle in well and are happy.

This year our departing year 11 did us proud with some superb results. It was especially pleasing to see great results in the new, tougher GCSEs in English and maths. I still can't quite believe that almost 5% of our maths candidates gained the top grade of 9, and that nearly a quarter of English students scored grade 7 (around the old A grade) or above. On both of these measures, and many others, we remain well above the national average.

These new exams are exceptionally challenging, and the lessons learned are clear. Students who worked hard throughout school did well, those who tried to succeed with last minute "cramming" did less well. A second, equally stark, lesson is that students who were regularly absent from school struggled with the exams; given the huge amount of content involved this makes perfect sense. With this latter point in mind our governors are currently reviewing the school's policy on attendance, setting a target of 96% attendance for all students. We'll be writing to you next half term with details of the new policy.

We've been pushing these messages very hard with students this term, with the new exams being introduced in all subjects over the next two years we would very much appreciate your support from home.

Best wishes,

Simon Grieves  
Headteacher

**Students return  
to school on  
Tuesday 31st  
October at  
8.40am**

# Dates for your diary

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Staff INSET day - no students in school
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Students return to school 8.40am
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Yr 11 parents' evening
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr7, 8 & 9 parents' information evening
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 8 parents' evening
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 11 Skills Show
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Shopping Event 10am - 12pm
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	GCSE Music Showcase 6.30pm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	GCSE presentation evening 6.30pm
	Yr11 Theatre visit Drama
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr10 Science in Action
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Book Fair
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr7 parents' evening
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Holocaust Day Yr9
	Carol Concert - 7pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Break for Christmas 2.00pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Students return to school 8.40am
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr11 mock results day
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Learning for Life day
	Yr 9 options evening 6.30pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Yr 9 parents' evening
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr8 Wastewatchers
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Yr 11 Explore Law
February 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Intermediate Maths Challenge
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	GCSE Music Showcase
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Break for half term 3.05pm

## Exams

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr9 exams
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov - Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr11 GCSE mock exams
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 11 3D Art mock exam all day
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 11 Photography mock all day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 11 Fine Art mock exam all day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr 8 exams
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Yr11 Food & Nutrition NEA2

# School Events

## National Poetry Day

In order to celebrate National Poetry Day at Chapel-en-le-Frith High School we were delighted to have a very special guest in our library for the day - the celebrated poet, Matt Black. Matt worked with some lucky Year 7 and 8 students throughout the day; the students asked him questions before he went on to share some of his funnier poems with his audience such as “Toast”, “Grumpy” and ““Ba-aaa-re?” (about a sheep that takes over the world!). Matt then helped the students in crafting their own works. Mrs Dobson, librarian, said,



“The students loved the day and came up with some very original ideas. Everyone went home feeling inspired and with their own notebook to record their future ideas.”

## Macmillan Coffee Morning—29th September

A huge thank you to all parents and students who baked and donated cakes in support of our Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 29th September. The event was a great success and we raised over £500.



## Year 11 trip to the Skills Show at the NEC Birmingham on Friday 17 November 2017

The Skills Show is the U.K.'s largest careers and skills event, held at the N.E.C. in Birmingham. Once again we are arranging a trip for Year 11 students to attend the event on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Letters will be going out after half term but if you would like to find out more in the meantime, have a look at their website, [www.worldskillsuk.org](http://www.worldskillsuk.org)

**C Mangnall & L Evans**

## Christmas Shopping Event

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, we will have to cancel this year's Christmas Shopping event planned for Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. We very much hope to run the event as usual next year.

# News from the Music department

In July, on the last day of the summer term, our school acted as a centre for local Rockschoo! drum examinations. RSL (Rockschoo! Limited) is a leading international Music and Performing Arts exams board operating in over 40 countries around the world. Students came from a number of surrounding schools and five of our own students gained the following qualifications:

James Goddard: Grade 1 pass  
George Siderov: Grade 3 pass  
Will Patterson: Grade 5 pass  
Kobe Turner: Grade 6 pass  
Javan Carrington: Grade 8 merit

Many thanks to Dave Milner for organising these examinations

A reminder that passes at grade 6 and above do count towards GCSE and UCAS points so please do let us know of any results from exams taken out of school.

## Upcoming Events

### Music Showcase

The GCSE Music Showcase will take place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.00pm. This gives our current year 11 GCSE music students and some of the year 10 group the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience. Recordings of their performances from the evening can then be selected to send to the examination board as part of the practical component of their GCSE. Alternatively, they can simply be used for evaluation purposes in the classroom.

This is always a sociable and popular evening and tickets will be available soon after the half-term break.

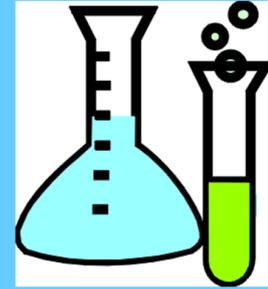
### Carol Service

Our annual Carol Service will be held at 7.00pm on the evening of Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at St Thomas Becket Church in Chapel-en-le-Frith. Our training and senior choirs, readers and drama group members as well as the glee club, concert band and a number of vocal and instrumental soloists are currently rehearsing in preparation for the evening. There will be a mix of traditional carols and more contemporary repertoire which will be suitably reflective for the occasion.

## Scientists of the Half-Term

Well done to the winners!

Alice Dobson Yr7  
Bradley Randles Yr8  
Abi Owen Yr9

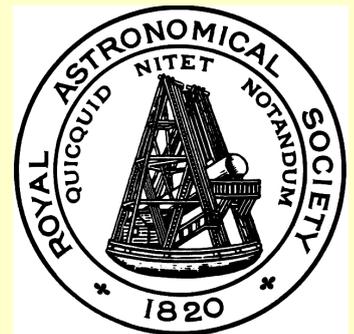


### Highly Commended:

Georgie Garner, Caitlin Loose, Maia Thorp, Sam Slack, Harvey Johnson, Maisie Jackson, Ella Mallinson, Lydia Powell and Dylan Briegel.

### GCSE Astronomy

Congratulations to Laura Beale (yr11) who sat her GCSE astronomy in June. The Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) awards certificates to the 12 top-performing students in the country, and Laura was one of these. Congratulations to the science department and Laura on this incredible achievement!



## General Information

### Midday Vacancy

We have a Midday Supervisor vacancy, 6.40 hours per week, term time only. If you are interested please contact Diane Hibbert for an application pack.

### SPORTS CLUBS Autumn Term

An updated list of extra-curricular activities can be found on the website  
<http://www.chapelhigh.org.uk/activities.html>

### **Online payments for school meals and events**

ParentPay is now being used to make payments for school meals, school trips and other activities. Parents who wish to continue making payments by cash or cheque may do so for now, but in the longer term we aim to move towards making the school completely cashless. Making payments online has many advantages including ensuring that money isn't lost and removing the need to search for change before school.

If you haven't received your login details or require a reminder of them, please contact the school office who will be able to help.

Please can you check your child's account on a regular basis to ensure they have enough money to purchase items at break and lunchtime, Eden Catering can no longer allow students with no money on their accounts to purchase items.

### **Permission slips**

Please be reminded that students are not allowed to participate in off site activities without your written consent. Under safeguarding procedures this must be written—email or verbal confirmation is not sufficient. Please therefore ensure that even if you pay on ParentPay, students will still need to return the permission slip.

### **Procedure for accepting students back into school with injuries**

If your child has an injury you must make contact with school prior to bringing them into school. We can then assist in their safe return. In the first instance, please contact your child's Pastoral Leader who will discuss the extent of injuries and possible timescale for return. They will then arrange for you to visit school and complete any relevant forms, which may include:

- Risk assessment

- Lift key form

- Medication form

Following the completion of a risk assessment detailing any possible health & safety issues we will be able to determine whether it is appropriate for your child to return to school, and agree a return to school date.

If you have any queries please contact your child's Pastoral Leader.

# Sports News

It was a very wet start to the term but luckily things have improved and we have had a busy few weeks of sporting activities! Congratulations to the following:

The school were honoured to be nominated and shortlisted for the Derbyshire Active Schools Award which recognises our commitment to increasing the number, range and quality of inclusive opportunities so more young people can take part in school festivals and competitions. This week we were thrilled to win this award at the Derbyshire Schools' Sports awards in Chesterfield. The extensive team of individuals, pictured above, work together to provide these sporting opportunities. It was a highly successful evening for the High Peak area, and in particular, our school. Jacob Roberts was the outstanding winner in the Sportsman of the Year category for his achievements in kick boxing and the under sixteen boys cross country team finished runners up in the Team of the Year category following their success at national level last year.



In other news, the first competition of the year saw us win our first national medal! We took a team to the English Schools' fell running championships in Giggleswick and were led home by Sam Soles who was a super 8<sup>th</sup>, the boys' team of Sam, Stuart and Edward Diamond won third team place! On a very challenging course, all the runners performed very well.

The cross country teams had their first competition at Sheffield and the outstanding year 9/10 boys team won as they try to repeat the success of last year and qualify for the English Schools finals. The year 7/8 boys were an unlucky 4<sup>th</sup>; the year 7/8 girls 5<sup>th</sup>; and the year 9/10 girls 8<sup>th</sup>; a really super set of results and lots of good individual runs especially from the year sevens who were running in their first competition.



The football season has started with wins against New Mills, Macclesfield Academy and Buxton. Netball matches have been played against Macclesfield Academy, Lady Manners, St Thomas More and St Philip Howard with lots of wins too.

There has been an enthusiastic and busy start to the rugby season supported by our links with the England RFU. Lots of students are enjoying excellent coaching in both lessons and at club, and forty year seven and eight students attended a development day at Buxton rugby club this week.

The Duke of Edinburgh award for year 10s was launched last week with an application deadline of today. Good luck to all those selected.

**E Milne, CLM PE**