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Dear Parents

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the school year. As we settle down to another year, both welcoming our new year 7 students and starting work with those we already know well, the pace of change in education nationally is showing no signs of slowing. This is the first year of the Government's new measures of school performance which, rightly I believe, focus on the progress students make using a measure known as "progress 8".

We were delighted with the GCSE results this year, with some stunning progress demonstrated across the ability range. It was particularly pleasing to see some exceptional performances in the

top grades, with some students leaving with strings of A* and A grades. The national picture this year is confused, with changes to exams, entry patterns and measures but our modelling suggests that our progress 8 score will place us amongst the top few schools in Derbyshire with progress likely to be well above the national average.

The purpose of all of our work is of course to equip our young people with the skills and qualifications they need to succeed in future and on results day it was wonderful to see students receive results which, quite literally, opened the doors of post 16 providers to them.

Finally, can I highlight for you two important dates included in this Newsletter: for those of you with children in years 5 and 6 our Open Evening is on Tuesday 27th September and our first ever Careers Fair, open to all students and their parents, is on Thursday October 6th.

We look forward to working with you over another school year,

Simon Grieves
Headteacher

Staffing News

We are delighted to welcome several new additions to our staff; Miss Hunter to English, Miss Hobson to Maths, Miss Blackwell to Science, Mr Henshall to PE, Mr Ruff to RE, Mr Cooper to Technology and Ms Venables as PA to the Headteacher.

Sadly we do though say goodbye to Mr Brodie, Learning Supervisor, who left us last week to begin a teacher training course. We wish him every success.

Dates for your diary

Monday 26 th September	Danish Exchange Trip Arrives
Tuesday 27 th September	Open Day and Evening
Wednesday 28 th September	Open Day
	International Sports Event with Danish Exchange Students 4.00pm – 6.00pm
Thursday 6 th October	Learning for Life Day – All year groups
	Careers Event 3.15pm – 6.30pm
Tuesday 11 th October	YR8 ST4G Perfume Making
Wednesday 12 th October	Post 16 Evening for YR11
Wednesday 12 th October	YR7 Trip to Castleton
Friday 14 th October	YR10 Art Trip to Castleton
Wednesday 19 th October	YR11 Parents Information Evening
Friday 21 st October	Break up for half term – 3.05pm
Monday 31 st October	Staff Inset Day – No students in school
Tuesday 1 st November	Students return to school 8.40am
Thursday 3 rd November	YR 7, 8 & 9 Parents Information Evening
Monday 8 th November	YR7 Moonwatch
Thursday 10 th November	Presentation Evening
Tuesday 15 th November	YR11 Parents Evening
Thursday 17 th November	Christmas Shopping Night
Friday 18 th November	Yr11 Skills Show
	Children in Need
Wednesday 23 rd November	Music Showcase
Friday 25 th November	YR10 Science in Action Trip
Wednesday 30 th November	Drama Showcase
Wednesday 7 th December	Carol Concert
Tuesday 13 th December	YR7 Parents Evening
Friday 16 th December	Terms finishes 2.05pm

EXAMS

14 th and 15 September	YR7 CATs
Monday 10 th October	Yr11 Add Science ISA - Pop A
Wednesday 12 th October	Yr11 Add Science ISA - Pop B
1 st November – 11 th November	YR9 Exams
Monday 21 st November	Yr11 Triple Science ISA resits – Biology
Tuesday 22 nd November	Yr11 Triple Science ISA resits – Chemistry
Wednesday 23 rd November	Yr11 Triple Science ISA resits – Physics
28 th November – 9 th December	YR11 Exams

News and Events

Sad News

I am saddened to report news of my predecessor Stuart Ash, who died earlier this month following a short illness.

Stuart retired in 2011 after 18 years as headteacher of this school. It was Stuart who oversaw the negotiation of the provision of this new school, merging the existing high school with what was then John Duncan Special School in Buxton. He successfully negotiated the PFI contract and worked on the design of this building and we owe our current fantastic facilities to his leadership, meticulous planning and attention to detail. The school's current success and its friendly and inclusive ethos is in no small measure due to his hard work and vision and the work of the staff team that he built here.

Stuart was universally well regarded and respected and I am sure that many parents and ex-students will remember him with fondness and share our sadness at this news. A collection is being made in aid of Earl Mountbatten Hospice, Isle of Wight and we are happy to pass on any donations that parents may wish to make.

Simon Grieves
Headteacher

Parent Information Evenings

Each academic year we offer parents the opportunity to participate in workshops aimed at increasing their knowledge and understanding of issues faced by their children. The evenings are deliberately targeted at different year groups as they progress through school. The dates for these evenings are listed below with a broad explanation of the topics to be covered. If parents have any additional areas of interest that they feel the school could assist them with please email your suggestions for additional workshop content to sgarratt@chapelhigh.org.uk and we'll see if we can accommodate your requests.

Year 11 -Wednesday 19th October – Revision techniques and understanding the exams system.

Years 7, 8 and 9 - Thursday 3rd November – Supporting your child at home, study skills, literacy, Maths and English curriculum, Show my homework, coping with anxiety etc

Year 10 - Tuesday 7th March – Making decisions about Post 16 choices – changing curriculum 16 to 18 and beyond.

Website update

Over the past few months we have been working on updating and reorganising our website and we hope that we will be able to launch this soon. The new website will be accessible via phones and tablets and we hope you will find it informative and easy to navigate. If there is anything you feel it would be helpful to include, please contact Ms Higgins at school.

Information

Reading and Spelling tests

Over the first few weeks of term all Year 7 students will undergo baseline reading, spelling and handwriting tests, along with some students in older years who missed their annual test at the end of last academic year. We then reassess students in Years 7, 8 and 9 at the end of the year to monitor progress. If any issues are raised as a result of the tests we will contact parents to discuss them.

Cognitive Ability Tests

In addition, students in Year 7 will also complete cognitive ability tests which again provide a baseline measure of general ability. The data is analysed externally and compared with national data before we are provided with the results later in the Autumn term. There is nothing that students can do to prepare for these tests and we stress to students that they do not count towards any measure or assessment for the student. We use the outcomes in conjunction with Key Stage 2 results and teacher assessment to help us to moderate targets for students as the year goes on. We do not routinely issue this data to parents or students but if you are interested in discussing this, please feel free to contact Ms Higgins for further information.

ShowMyHomework

As you are aware we use an online tool, ShowMyHomework, to set all homework in school. For this reason we have chosen not to provide students with homework planners and we have encouraged them instead to purchase a personal diary to note reminders and deadlines. All students in Years 8 to 11 should be well used to accessing their homework via PINs or emails and passwords. Parents were also issued with PINs last year. All tutors, teachers and office staff can access student logins and PINs and students simply need to request a reprint of their information if they have forgotten it. Homework is set and explained in class and paper copies are provided where necessary.

Students in Year 7 will be given a full induction into using ShowMyHomework on the first Learning for Life Day on 6 October and they will not be expected to access their homework online until after this date. However, we are issuing PINs this week and should students wish to familiarise themselves with how SMHW works they are welcome to do so. We would suggest that students do this under your supervision and using their PINS only rather than setting up their login via email and password at this stage.

Homework

The rota for this year's homework projects for Years 7-9 is attached to this Newsletter. Staff will explain projects in class and these will be issued via ShowMyHomework and on paper. In addition, homework will be set in all subjects as described on the attached document. If you have any queries please contact Mrs Davies, Learning Co-ordinator for Years 7-9. Students in Years 10 and 11 will be set homework in all subjects and if you have any concerns or queries, please contact Ms Anderson, Learning Co-ordinator for Years 10 and 11.

Events in School

Open Days and Open Evening 2016 – Parents of children in Years 5 and 6

It's that time of year again when decisions on secondary school applications have to be made. We'll be running morning (9.30am) and afternoon (1.30pm) tours of the school on our Open Days on **Tuesday 27th** and **Wednesday 28th September 2016**. No appointment is needed for these tours which will give you a good opportunity to see the school at work on a normal day. Each tour ends with an informal question and answer session with the headteacher over tea or coffee.

Our Open Evening is on **Tuesday 27th September 2016 running from 6.30pm to 8.30pm with talks from the headteacher at 6.45pm and 7.30pm**. This is a more formal opportunity to hear about the work of the school and to meet staff. Your son or daughter is of course welcome to join you at Open Evening or on an Open Day. Please allow time to find parking as all of these events can get rather busy!

Applications for places must be made, to Derbyshire County Council, by the 31st October 2016.

Careers Fair - Thursday 6th October, 2016

Chapel-en-le-Frith High School's first ever Careers Fair will soon be here! Make sure the date, Thursday 6th October, from 3.15 to 6.30pm is in your diary. With over thirty local and national employers attending, we want to inspire students with the wide range of careers available. Employers already confirmed include the N.H.S and the paramedic service, the Army and Navy, the police, Aldi, Lafarge Tarmac, Federal Mogul, Street Crane, High Peak Scaffolding and representatives from a range of professions including dentistry and accountancy.

We hope the Careers Fair will be fun and informative with opportunities for students to try their hand at various skills associated with different careers.

The Fair is open to students from all year groups and their parents. There will be a late school bus to Glossop leaving at 4.30pm

There's still time to get involved. If you know of any employers or professionals who would be interested in being involved, please contact the school Careers Coordinators (Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Mangnall)

Date for your Diaries

**Thursday 17th November
6.30 – 8.30pm**

Christmas Shopping Night

This is a lovely sociable event for the school and local community and each year raises a lot of money for cancer charities in the area and for resources to help enhance the education of our children.

Further details in next month's newsletter.

Stall Holders— If you are interested in having a stall, please contact the school office for further details.

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HOMWORK

Homework

All students in Key Stage 3 will have a weekly core homework set in Maths, English, Science and Modern Foreign Languages.

All other subjects set a 2 week project style homework according to the calendar below.

These subjects will **also** set short homework tasks as and when required, for example research, preparation for tests, extending classwork tasks etc.

Each project has an approximate 4 hour time expectation with differentiated outcomes. Students will be told the assessment criteria when the piece is set.

If you have any queries please contact the subject teacher or the Curriculum Learning Manager for the department in the first instance.

Fortnight commencing	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
19 th September 2016	Music	Technology	Geography
3 rd October 2016	PE	Drama	Mfl
17 th Oct 2016	Citizenship – Finance Quiz	Citizenship – Budget for a holiday project	Exams revision and preparation
7 th Nov 2016	RE	Art	Exams fortnight
21 rd Nov 2016	History	Geography	Art
5 th Dec 2016	Art	MFL	Drama
Christmas Holidays			
9 th Jan 2017	Geography	Exams revision and preparation	History
23 rd Jan 2017	Drama	Exams fortnight	RE
6 th Feb 2017	Citizenship – Volunteering at home	Citizenship – The Law Quiz	ICT
27 th Feb 2017	Technology	Music	Technology
13 th March 2017	Art	RE	PE
27 th March 2017	MFL	Art	Citizenship – Volunteering in the community
Easter Holidays			
25 th April 2017	Exams revision and preparation	History	Music
8 th May 2017	Exams fortnight	ICT	Citizenship – The Law and you project.
22 nd May 2017	ICT	PE	Study skills Yr 10 preparation

Extra-Curricular Activities

Day	Lunch 12.15- 105 unless otherwise stated	After School Until 4.15 unless otherwise stated
Monday	ICT1 – 12.15-12.50 All Years ICT3 Year 11 study room Library – All years, quiet /reading activities Music Practice Rooms – bookings only 12.40 Training choir Drama 1 Careers Drop in – Careers office Sue Lewis School Counsellor Drop In Interview Rm. GCSE Fine Art by arrangement	Lesson 6 Study Support - ICT 1 and 3 Maths intervention KS3 MA5 Computer studies support ICT1 GCSE Drama rehearsals Badminton Year 7+8 Rugby Year 7+8 Dance All years Golf All years
Tuesday	ICT1 – 12.15-12.50 All years ICT3 Year 11 study room Library – All years, quiet /reading activities Music Practice Rooms – bookings only 12.40 Concert band Drama 1 GCSE Fine Art by arrangement School newspaper group All years English 3 RED WEEK Knit and natter 12.30 LS2	Lesson 6 Study Support- ICT 1 and 3 Extended Day LS until 5.00 School newspaper group All years English 3 RED WEEK Spanish Years 7-9 ML4 GCSE Fine Art, 3D & Photography – 4.30 GCSE Maths drop in Years 10 and 11 MA 3 Computer studies support GCSE Drama rehearsals Cross Country All years Hockey All years Badminton All years
Wednesday	ICT1 – 12.15-12.50 All years ICT3 Year 11 study room Library – All years, quiet /reading activities Music Practice Rooms – bookings only 12.40 Senior choir Drama 1 Careers Drop in – Careers office GCSE Fine Art by arrangement	Lesson 6 Study Support- ICT 1 and 2 Controlled Assessment catch up English 3 GCSE Fine Art & 3D - 4:30 GCSE Astronomy Latin Years 7 and 8 (by invitation) ML2 Grade 5 Music theory class MU1 Computer studies support GCSE Philosophy and Ethics revision Science revision Year 11 Football Years 7 + 8 Netball Years 7 + 8 Girls' football All years

Thursday	ICT1 – 12.15-12.50 All years ICT3 Year 11 study room Library – Chess club only Music Practice Rooms – bookings only 12.40 Debating society All years English 4 Keyboard club 12.30 LSI Philosophy and Ethics A/A* RE2 Philosophy and Ethics –improving writing workshop RE1 History GCSE catch up Hi1	Lesson 6 Study Support- ICT 1 and 3 KS3 Science Club Science 4 GCSE Media Controlled assessment catch-up GCSE Fine Art & Photography – 4.30 GCSE Drama rehearsals Warhammer Maths 5 Computer studies support Netball Years 9-11 Football Years 9-11
Friday	ICT1 – 12.15-12.50 All years ICT3 Year 10 study room Library – All years, quiet /reading activities Music Practice Rooms – bookings only 12.40	Staff football and badminton Computer studies support

Book Club runs in the library once a month- the middle Friday of the month at lunchtime. See Mrs Wilcock in the library for details.

Other News

Transport Fare Increase

A reminder that the Bus Fare on services 038, 039, 040 and 042 will increase to 90p each way starting from Monday 31st October. These are the services from Whaley Bridge, Fernilee, Bridgemont, Buxworth and Chinley.

Equipment

As a reminder we would ask that all students come to school with the following basic equipment:
 Pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator and diary.

Colours, glue, scissors and highlighters are also very useful. Please be aware that only black pens may be used for examinations.

Allotment

Do you know anyone who lives locally and likes gardening? We are looking for a volunteer to help with the general upkeep and watering of our allotment.

The students from LS are working hard to restore the allotment to its former glory. As part of the John Muir Award we are planning to convert some of the space into a wildlife conservation area and use the rest to produce organically grown fruits and vegetables.

If you sometimes have an hour or two to spare and would like to help us, especially in the school holidays, please contact the school.