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Headteacher: Mr M Smith

## **HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER: FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach the final two weeks of the half-term, I just wanted to update you with what's being happening across the school.

Parents and Carers of Year 7 students were invited into school on Tuesday for their 'meet the tutor' evening. We couldn't be more pleased with how well our Year 7 students have started Huntington School; they are all working incredibly hard and are excellent advocates of our core values. The event was hugely positive with all Year 7 tutors unanimous in their praise for their tutees.

Our Year 11 Learn & Succeed information evening is next week and we look forward to welcoming parents, carers and students into school. We will be providing important information on target grades, mock examinations, revision strategies and much more. Please do join us next Tuesday so that we can help you to support your child as they prepare for their GCSE examinations next year.

As you may be aware, the school recognised World Mental Health Day earlier this week by hosting a 'tea and talk' session, bringing both staff and students together to share stories, support one another, and spread awareness about the importance of mental health. We recognise the importance of supporting each other with their mental health and sometimes, a simple conversation over a cup of tea can make all the difference.

I hope you enjoy a good weekend,

With best wishes

Matt Smith  
Headteacher

## GENERAL NOTICES

### INTRODUCING OUR ATTENDANCE TEAM

We are really lucky at Huntington School to have a supportive and skilful attendance team. Whether you need advice or support, they are here to help, and with this in mind we wanted to introduce you to them.

**Mrs Jen Teasdale and Mrs Sue Khafagy** are our Attendance Officers. They process all notifications of absence and ensures that our registers are kept up to date and accurate, which is an important part of our safeguarding processes. They also process the administration of requests for leave of absence, and other such paperwork.

You can report absence for students in Years 7 to 11 using the following methods:

- Via the ClassCharts app.
- By emailing [absence@huntington-ed.org.uk](mailto:absence@huntington-ed.org.uk)
- By calling 01904 752165.

**Mrs Amanda Blunt** supports the sixth form department both pastorally and monitoring year 12 and 13 absence.

For students in the sixth form you can report absence to Mrs Blunt by:

- Emailing [a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk](mailto:a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk)
- By calling 01904 752156.

**Miss Beth Hammell** is our Attendance Support Worker. She works closely in liaison with our year group pastoral teams to work alongside those families whose children may be struggling to come to school, for many different reasons. She can be contacted at [bl.hammell@huntington-ed.org.uk](mailto:bl.hammell@huntington-ed.org.uk).

**Ms Katy Townsend** is our Attendance Manager with oversight of attendance and punctuality. She works with the attendance and pastoral teams to improve attendance and punctuality across the school, as well as co-ordinating with secondary schools across the city to bring our attendance policies into line with each other. Her email address is [k.townsend@huntington-ed.org.uk](mailto:k.townsend@huntington-ed.org.uk).

### MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

We would like to remind parents and carers that students are not permitted to use their mobile phones when in school.

We understand that students need this technology when leaving or on the way to school but have clear expectations that they will be switched off and put away in their bags during the school day. If a mobile phone is visible in school, our policy is that it will be confiscated and handed into student reception.

We would therefore appreciate your support and request that any communication to your child during the school day, such as to request forgotten equipment or notifying you of illness, is done via a member of the pastoral team. We always encourage our students to seek out their year team in order to resolve such issues. Contact details for each year team can also be found at the end of this letter.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

At Huntington School we feel that all our students benefit from the fact that we have a sixth form. Our sixth form students are positive role models and are a daily source of inspiration to younger students. Many of them engage in activities in school that involve supporting and leading others, these including in-form support, paired reading, and supporting with extra-curricular clubs.

Over the past few weeks, we have been delivering training to all of our sixth formers as we set up the 'Student Leadership Accreditation', which we are going to support them all to achieve. This is a way of recognising their leadership skills and the impact they have in the classroom, across the school, and in the wider community. Students will assess themselves against a framework and they will be supported to actively seek opportunities to advance themselves and gather evidence to showcase their new skills in a portfolio. A Teams page has been created with support resources and students can work towards the accreditation at three levels: bronze, silver and gold.

The award will provide the students with valuable evidence of their all-round achievements when applying for colleges, universities, or jobs. Additionally, many of the skills students use in the process will reinforce key learning competencies.

We are so proud of how engaged the students have been so far with the training. We look forward to seeing how it progresses and watching our sixth formers inspire the younger students to see what is possible and help them to be aspirational and ambitious.



## SPARX CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to everyone for making a great start on Sparx Maths this year. Nearly 2000 schools in the UK use Sparx as a weekly homework platform and Huntington is in the top 20% for completion rate.

82% of our students have completed their first two tasks. 90% of our students have completed at least one of their tasks

Keep up the great work, and let's aim to push in to the top 10% of schools!

For more information and the research behind the effectiveness of Sparx, follow [this link](#)

## EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AT HUNTINGTON

This year we have over **60 extra-curricular clubs** on offer at Huntington School. There really is something for everyone!

Exciting new sports to try. All you need is a pair of trainers!

- Taekwondo –Tuesday Lunchtime – Gym
- Tchoukball – Thursday Lunchtime – Sports Hall
- Current affairs and social issues clubs to support our students to become global citizens.
- Student newspaper– [Monday after school \(week B\) C07](#)
- Current affairs - Wednesday Lunchtime – P11
- [Progress Pride People](#) – Friday Lunchtime -P14
- Sustainable futures – Thursday Lunchtime -W13
- Debating – Thursday Lunchtime (after half term) - P12
- Anti-bullying ambassadors – Tuesday Lunchtime – W01

Plus, many more available throughout the week. Have a look at the full offer at the link below.

[Huntington School - Extra Curricular Clubs](#)

## WHY NOT BECOME A YOUTH CADET?

The youth cadet unit at York are looking to recruit new cadets to join the unit.

The cadets meet at York Railway station every Tuesday evening between 6pm and 8pm in term times. This is aimed at 13-18yr olds who have an interest in public services.

Any questions should be directed to [richard.price@btp.police.uk](mailto:richard.price@btp.police.uk)

More information can be found here: [British Transport Police Cadets | British Transport Police \(btp.police.uk\)](#)

## CONTACTING US

We encourage all parents to contact us if they have an issue with their child that needs resolving. We are here to support and help in whatever way we can. Here are the key contact details:

	Head of Year	Student Support Leader
Year 7	Miss Elliott <a href="mailto:n.elliott@huntington-ed.org.uk">n.elliott@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Miss Tomlinson <a href="mailto:hf.tomlinson@huntington-ed.org.uk">hf.tomlinson@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Year 8	Mr Kettlewell <a href="mailto:r.kettlewell@huntington-ed.org.uk">r.kettlewell@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Ms Booth <a href="mailto:l.booth@huntington-ed.org.uk">l.booth@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Year 9	Miss E Townsend <a href="mailto:e.townsend@huntington-ed.org.uk">e.townsend@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Miss Evennett <a href="mailto:J.Evennett@huntington-ed.org.uk">J.Evennett@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>

Aspirations Teaching and Learning Manager: Mr S Daniel ([s.daniel@huntington-ed.org.uk](mailto:s.daniel@huntington-ed.org.uk))

Year 10	Mrs Garbett <a href="mailto:ri.garbett@huntington-ed.org.uk">ri.garbett@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Mrs Hammell <a href="mailto:l.hammell@huntington-ed.org.uk">l.hammell@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Year 11	Mrs Hadcroft <a href="mailto:ce.hadcroft@huntington-ed.org.uk">ce.hadcroft@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Ms Gledhill <a href="mailto:c.gledhill@huntington-ed.org.uk">c.gledhill@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Year 12	Miss Campbell <a href="mailto:c.campbell@huntington-ed.org.uk">c.campbell@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Mrs Blunt <a href="mailto:a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk">a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Year 13	Mr Savory/Mrs Hopson <a href="mailto:m.savory@huntington-ed.org.uk">m.savory@huntington-ed.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:l.hopson@huntington-ed.org.uk">l.hopson@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>	Mrs Blunt <a href="mailto:a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk">a.blunt@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>

Mrs Naish	Deputy Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead <a href="mailto:g.naish@huntington-ed.org.uk">g.naish@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Mr Lowe	Assistant Headteacher, SENDCO <a href="mailto:w.lowe@huntington-ed.org.uk">w.lowe@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Mr Bruce	Assistant Headteacher i/c Year 7 <a href="mailto:m.bruce@huntington-ed.org.uk">m.bruce@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Mr Meldrum	Assistant Headteacher i/c Year 8 & 9 <a href="mailto:n.meldrum@huntington-ed.org.uk">n.meldrum@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Mr Paley	Assistant Headteacher i/c 10 & 11 <a href="mailto:t.paley@huntington-ed.org.uk">t.paley@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>
Mr Johnson	Director of Sixth Form <a href="mailto:m.johnson@huntington-ed.org.uk">m.johnson@huntington-ed.org.uk</a>

## SAFEGUARDING AND OUT OF HOURS CONCERNS

If you are concerned about a young person you must contact M.A.S.H (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Team) which is the single point of contact for all concerns about children. If there are immediate concerns about the safety of a child, you should contact North Yorkshire Police on 999.

**Contact MASH Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm:**

- telephone - 01904 551900
- email - [mash@york.gov.uk](mailto:mash@york.gov.uk)

**Contact MASH Early Help Team to make an early help referral or access advice:**

- telephone - 01904 551900

- email - [earlyhelp@york.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@york.gov.uk)

**Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays, contact the emergency duty team**

- telephone - 01609 780780
- email - [edt@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:edt@northyorks.gov.uk)