



Newsletter

Student
Name.....

July 2007

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

Letter from Ms Dews and the Staff

Dear Parents/Carers

The final weeks of the term have gone remarkably quickly and we are now at the end of the 2006-7 school year. This has been a good year in the life of Holy Family and we have had much to celebrate. The recent SATs results for Year 9 continued this trend as 81% of the students gained level 5 or above in Science and 88% of the students gained level 5 or above in Mathematics. We were particularly delighted with the number who gained higher levels - up to level 8 in Mathematics.

SCHOOL REPORTS

All of you should have received a copy of your son/daughter's end of year report sent by post and for the majority of students, the reports contain many pleasing comments and promising levels of attainment. If you have not received the report for some reason, then please contact us and we will re-issue. You may have noted that we used new style reports initially trialled with Year 11.

Parents/carers' views were sought at that time and feedback was very positive. If any parent/carer has a view on the format and would like to comment, please contact school. The report is designed to give you an update on your child's current effort level and current KS3 or GCSE grade. It also includes target grades and strategies to help your son/daughter reach their target in the coming year.

OSMOTHERLEY 16th -18th July

From Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th July, sixty six Year 8 pupils were lucky with the weather and enjoyed a three day residential based at Osmotherley Youth Hostel. This year activities included a visit to Pickering Castle, a 2½ mile walk around Goathland, a fun day out at Lightwater Valley Theme Park, swimming at Hambleton Leisure Centre, investigating the past at the James Herriot Museum and finally ten pin bowling at Selby Bowl n' Fun. Pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

D J Cooper
Head of Yr 8



Outside the James Herriot Museum—Thirsk

EXTRA – CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The residentials to Lourdes, Osmotherley and Paris have again proved enormously popular, as has the annual jaunt to Flamingo land. Additional activities offered this year on July 18th included golf and fishing – both new ventures for us.

Sport plays a significant role in the life of the school and so it is appropriate that the year ends with the formal Sports Dinner when students receive awards for sporting endeavours from Katherine Brunt, the England cricketer who coached the students who played cricket at Headingley. Student involvement in extracurricular activities, whether participating in a trip or being part of a school team, is important. It develops social skills and there is a direct correlation between involvement in school life and academic success.

FAREWELL TO STAFF

Our final day in school will include a liturgy led by the Year 10 Lourdes group and an assembly at which we say "goodbye" to the staff who are leaving us. Mrs Bodell and Mr Atkinson are moving on to new posts; Miss Mason and Miss Hoff are returning to university to study for their PGCEs; Mrs Clayton, Mr Bell, Mr Smith and Mr Walker are all retiring. Mr Smith is currently the longest serving member of staff, as he started at the school in 1970. Mr Walker started here in 1973. We wish all staff happiness in their new posts or in retirement and thank them for their work for the students and their loyalty to the Holy Family.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Changes to the Transport Arrangements for Pupils from the East Riding of Yorkshire from September 2007

There will be 4 buses from September.

SW1 (Abbey Coachway) and SDALE (Alpha Coach Company) have been contracted by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to carry pupils, who are entitled to assistance from the LEA with their transport costs, and who are issued with a bus pass by the Council. Please note for the SW1 bus, the stop on Western Rd, Goole will be at the junction with Oxford Rd.

After consultation with the LEA and Mr Holt of Swayne Coaches, 2 additional buses, SW3 and SW4, have been arranged to transport the remaining pupils from the ERY area to school. Places have not been allocated, but the letters sent home indicated an anticipated choice of bus to prevent overcrowding. It is requested that pupils always use the same bus. All ERY pupils should have brought home a letter giving details of the routes, bus stops, times and costs by Thursday, 19 July – if you haven't received this information, please request a copy of the relevant letter, preferably by Tuesday, 24 July.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We expect all students to be in school uniform but at the start of a new year after six weeks holiday, it is useful to remind students of the following:

- Jewellery – only a watch and a single stud in the ear are permitted. Rings, necklaces, additional facial piercings etc are NOT acceptable and must be removed.
- Blazers are uniform and should be worn in lessons and at break and lunchtimes. They should not be replaced by other casual jackets.
- Shoes, not trainers, should be worn in school.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

There have been a number of events this term including three trips to Headingley, when over 70 boys visited the Carnegie Stadium to watch Yorkshire play in matches against Northants, Notts and Derby.

In the York and District Schools Athletics Championship we were very successful. Richard Binns 9HN came first in the 400m and Eleanor Wadsworth 9HN won both the 100m and High Jump events.



Richard Binns 9HN winning the 400m

LOURDES

Between the 5th and 13th of July, a group of 16 pupils accompanied the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. As usual, it proved a wonderful experience for all our students.

"Lourdes was probably the best week of my life. It moved me deeply. The buildings are huge and ornate. You would not believe that they had been made by human hands. When you are in the

Domain the feeling is amazing, like no other place I've ever been to. The services are fantastic, so much thought and effort is put into them and the love for Jesus is so deep. So many people in one place speaking different languages but, yet, everyone can communicate with each other through God. I had a great time and would recommend it to anyone."

Matthew Young 10B

ATTENDANCE

Important Facts and Figures

90% attendance	=	absence of $\frac{1}{2}$ a day every week
90% attendance	=	absence of 4 whole school weeks in the year
90% attendance	=	Absence of $\frac{1}{2}$ year over 5 years at school
90% attendance	=	A fall of one grade at GCSE
1% fall in attendance	=	A 5% fall in attainment

As you can see from the above table, attendance is vitally important to attainment and progress.

Please do not take holidays in term time and do try to make health appointments outside the school day. Thank you.

A Kuzio
Assistant Head

CURRICULUM UPDATE

As some, but not all parents will be aware, we have extended the curriculum again this year. As well as the "traditional" GCSE subjects, we offer a wide variety of Vocational options at Key Stage 4. Engineering, Construction, Hair and Beauty, Hospitality and Catering, Health and Social Care are offered on a Tuesday and a Thursday. A Dance GCSE is also offered on a Saturday morning and we have put Drama into the Year 10 timetable for next year. As you can see we offer a great deal to a variety of our students at a number of levels.

As well as opportunities at Key Stage 4, we hope to offer Latin to Years 8 and 9 as a lunch time / after school option. This will add a different dimension to the curriculum and open up an area of learning that has, previously, been unavailable. If you have any comments or feedback on the curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

R Pritchard
(Deputy Headteacher)

Other News



THE NEW BUILDINGS

The new build is still on target: the classrooms for mid September and the Sports Hall for October. The pressure will now be on to ensure that the internal refurbishment is completed in time for September 4th when Year 7 students return. All other years start back on September 5th. It is an exciting time as the plans become reality. The school will look and feel very different as a result of the money being spent on it and so we expect students to look after it. We will be strictly enforcing rules about chewing gum which should not be brought in to school. Discarded chewing gum ruins carpets and furniture. We ask that you support us by reinforcing these simple rules which ultimately make life better for everyone.

NO SMOKING LEGISLATION

As you will be aware the new "No Smoking" law came into effect on 1st July 2007 for all public buildings including schools and colleges. Holy Family has been a "Smoke Free Environment" for many years, however, as required by law, "No Smoking" signs are now displayed at all entrances to the building. Smoking is against the law anywhere on the school grounds and, as such, the school must report any cases which may be subject to the statutory fine of £50. For students, smoking is against school rules and any pupil continuing to flout this regulation will face exclusion.

EARLY FINISH ON TUESDAY 24TH JULY

On the last day of term, Tuesday 24th July, school will finish at 2pm. Pupils living locally will be allowed to walk home; buses and taxis for other pupils have been booked for 2pm. The First South Yorkshire bus for Doncaster pupils will collect from school at 12.45pm. However, if you wish your child to remain in school till 3.30pm, when you can collect him/her, please let us know.

SCHOOL PROFILE

The new school profile replaces the Governors' Annual Report to Parents.

The profile can be viewed at [http:// schoolprofile.parentscentre.gov.uk](http://schoolprofile.parentscentre.gov.uk). Once logged on to the site, simply enter the name of the school and select Holy Family Catholic High School, Carlton from the list. This will bring up information on the school for the academic year 2005/06. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the School Profile, please contact the office.

MOBILE PHONES - REMINDER

Mobile phones are **not** needed in school but if you allow your son/daughter to carry a mobile phone, please remind your son/daughter that it should **not** be switched on during the school day. Mobile phones are a source of distraction and can be used to annoy or bully others. If you need to contact your child in school, the office staff are happy to pass on messages.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and students for their work during the year and to say a special "thank you" to you, the parents and carers, for all your support for your children and the school.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer break

A Dews
Headteacher

TERM DATES FOR 2007

SCHOOL CLOSES	SCHOOL OPENS
	Tuesday 4 September (Yr 7 only)
	Wednesday 5 September (Whole School)
Friday 19 October	Tuesday 30 October
Thursday 29 November	Monday 3 December
Friday 21 December	

The Governors and Staff of Holy Family would like to wish all our families a happy and peaceful summer and look forward to seeing you all again in September.