



# The Market Weighton School

*Expect More - Achieve More*

## Parent Newsletter

September 2017

### Headteacher's Update

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new academic year.

We finished last year on a real high with a busy week of events. Over 150 students received awards at our annual prize giving, our talented musicians and dancers wowed the audience at the summer showcase with a special performance of 'Bridge over Troubled Water' and Years 7 and 8 rounded off the week with a 'summer party'.

We started the term celebrating improved GCSE results. Our students performed well in the new style Maths and English GCSEs with 68% of them scoring a grade 4 or higher in both Maths and English (the government's new basics measure). This compares favourably with the figure of 66% last year for those gaining at least a C grade in these subjects.



*Amy Harrison*



*Lucas Wilson*

Notable individual performances from Lucas Wilson who was awarded a grade 9 in his English Language paper and achieved A and A\* grades in all other subjects. Other students gaining predominantly top grades were

Luke Potter, William Hall, Sean Owen and Amy Harrison. Emma Fentiman achieved the highest performance in Maths, achieving an A\* in Further Maths and a grade 8 in the new GCSE.

In terms of progress, Amy Harrison, Jess Pickering, Chenelle Stork and Jack Watson all achieved at least a grade higher on average per subject than expected based on prior attainment. Many more students achieved excellent grades in a number of subjects and we congratulate them all and wish them well as they move on to the next stage of education or employment.

We have welcomed 85 new Year 7 students who have made a great start. As we 'expect more' to 'achieve more' we are aiming for even higher standards of behaviour this year. Despite the vast majority of students behaving well, even 1 lesson where learning is disrupted is too many. Our high expectations start with our school uniform and almost every student has returned looking very smart. We need parental support in order to maintain these standards and I thank you in advance for ensuring your child is wearing the uniform appropriately. By allowing parents to shop around for the basic uniform items means that costs are lower and a pair of sensible black shoes is more likely to be cheaper than branded trainers.

Another cost that I know you want us to keep to a minimum is school meals and we have absorbed a recent 10p price rise by looking for greater efficiencies. Some sandwich prices have increased as these have been increased by the supplier but all other items remain at 2015 prices and we now offer a meal deal with free vegetables with a main meal almost every day. The cashless system allows parents to monitor spending and if you have any concerns please do contact us as we can set spending limits. If you need help with your cashless account please contact the school office.

The next major event on the school calendar is the school walk and our students have again selected 4 House Charities: Mind, Brake, Teenage Cancer Trust and British Red Cross. The school walk is our main fundraising event for the school fund, which we use to pay for things that our school funding will not cover such as furniture for the social areas and goals for the playground. Please support us in raising as much money as possible by collecting sponsors and giving your support and encouragement in completing the school walk on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00 pm we are inviting all Year 5/6 students and parents into school for our Open Evening. We have a great school with fantastic students and if you know any Year 6 parents, please do encourage them to come and see what we have to offer. Likewise, I look forward to seeing those of you with children in Year 6; I am sure brothers and sisters will be keen to show them round.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Richard Harrison*  
Headteacher

## Apprenticeship Show

A group of 47 students from Year 11 attended the National Apprenticeship Show at Harrogate Showground on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Over 60 exhibitors took part including Colleges, The Army, Waitrose, PGL, Plus-Net and Mercedes.

The exhibitors offered apprenticeship advice for school leavers, college leavers and graduates. The event exists only to promote apprenticeships and the message is clear – apprenticeships work for both candidates and employers alike.



## Awards Evening – July 2017

On the final Wednesday of the Summer Term we celebrated with our second annual Awards Evening recognising the hard work and achievement of our students. Generous sponsorship from local businesses allowed us to present book prizes to over 160 students. Prizes were given in each subject for effort and achievement, along with overall students of the year and E-Praise points winners. By tracking reading progress using the Accelerated Reader software we were able to reward students who had read the most and also made the most progress in reading assessments.

Mrs Palmer presented the winners with their books and certificates in one of her final duties before retiring as Headteacher of Mount Pleasant Junior School. She shared a few words of support and encouragement and was particularly pleased to see so many familiar faces collecting awards.



Rachael Anderson  
Y10 Student of the Year



Choir performance



Leo Colyer – The Ruth Aldridge  
Citizenship Award

The final award of the evening, The Ruth Aldridge Citizenship Award, went to Leo Colyer in Year 11. This award will be presented each year in memory of Mrs Aldridge who, as a teaching assistant at TMWS, developed a peer mentor programme and offered lunchtime support for any student who needed it. Leo benefitted from that support when he first started at the school and continued to help others off his own initiative in his final two years.

We had so many deserving students this year that it was incredibly difficult to choose winners. Next year we plan to hold the event over two evenings and with the continued generous support from our sponsors we hope to offer even more prizes.

Thank you very much to all the sponsors for their generous donations, some who attended the event:



| Forthcoming Events |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 28 September       | Y10 Trip to Poetry Live                          |
| 29 September       | School Walk                                      |
| 3 October          | Y11 Parents' Evening & Progression Event         |
| 6 October          | Reserve School Walk                              |
| 19 October         | Y7 Tutor Evening                                 |
| 23 November        | Y10 Parents' Evening                             |
| 27 November        | Y9 Options Evening                               |
| 29 Nov – 11 Dec    | Y11 Mock Exams                                   |
| 12 December        | Church Services                                  |
| 20 December        | Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day           |
| 24 January         | Y11 Parents' Evening                             |
| Feb (Dates TBC)    | ICT Trip to Paris                                |
| 1 March            | Y8 Parents' Evening                              |
| 7 March            | Y7 Parents' Evening                              |
| 22 March           | Y11 Information Evening                          |
| 24 April           | Y9 Parents' Evening                              |
| 14 May – 29 June   | GCSE Exams                                       |
| June (Dates TBC)   | Y9 Residential Trip to AzuRivage, France         |
| June (Dates TBC)   | Y8 Residential Trip to Kingswood                 |
| 22 June            | Y6 SEN Visit                                     |
| 9-11 July          | Y6 Parent Information Evening and Uniform Sizing |
| 12 July            | Y7 & Y8 Awards Evening                           |
| 17 July            | Y9 & Y10 Awards Evening                          |
| 18 July            | Summer Concert                                   |
| 19 July            | Y7/8/9 Summer Disco                              |



## Wall of Excellence

Congratulations to the following students who have all had a piece of work chosen for the 'wall of excellence' since the last newsletter:

Hannah Telfer  
 Aminah Choudhury  
 Tom Tetlow  
 Charlotte Bringham  
 Ryan Tomkinson

As a reward, these students have been credited with £2.00 on their School Gateway account.

*Well done to all!*

### Term Dates 2017-18

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Autumn Term</b>             | 5 September to 22 December |
| <b>Staff Training Day</b>      | <i>4 September</i>         |
| Year 7 only return on          | 5 September                |
| All year groups in on          | 6 September                |
| <b>Half Term</b>               | 30 October to 3 November   |
| <b>Staff Training (Disagg)</b> | <i>22 December</i>         |
| <b>Christmas Holiday</b>       | 22 December to 8 January   |
| <b>Staff Training Day</b>      | 8 January                  |

|                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Spring Term</b>    | 9 January to 23 March      |
| <b>Half Term</b>      | 12 February to 16 February |
| <b>Easter Holiday</b> | 26 March to 9 April        |

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Summer Term</b>             | 10 April to 20 July |
| <b>Staff Training Day</b>      | 9 April             |
| <b>Half Term</b>               | 28 May to 1 June    |
| <b>Staff Training (Disagg)</b> | 23 July             |