

10 July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Update to GPS families

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to update you on some special events, key dates for this year and next, uniform and ask for your support with completing a survey.

I hope you are aware that our Summer Fair takes place on Tuesday from 3.30pm - 5pm. There will be a variety of stalls including a secondhand uniform stall where families will be able to purchase pre-loved washed uniform for a small fee. We hope you will be able to join us for this exciting new event which takes place on the school field.

Our Performing Arts department are working incredibly hard putting the final touches to the school production of We Will Rock You. This takes place on the evenings of Tuesday 19, Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 July at 6pm. Tickets are available via ParentPay or by handing money in a sealed envelope to reception over the next week. We hope to see many of you there.

In school we have been working hard on our PINDAR values and thinking about acceptable behaviour which we expect from all members of our community. I am very grateful to those families who are supporting this drive, attending meetings and working with us to support our young people - this makes such a difference to a successful home-school partnership. Our behaviour system is designed to reward students who do the right thing so please do remind your children that they can trade in their reward points at any time for a special treat - this can range from a new pen or pencil up to a £20 Xbox or Playstation voucher so do ask them to check their emails. We are delighted that so many of you have downloaded the Edulink app so that you can be more up-to-date with your child's behaviour and achievements - please note that when students trade in their points for a reward this does show as a 'behaviour' incident but definitely is not a bad thing - in fact it is quite the opposite! If you have any queries about your child's rewards and behaviour, please contact their form tutor in the first instance.

Further to letters sent to parents and carers of current Year 8 parents, please note that Year 8 remain in Key Stage Three for Year 9 - they will therefore keep their grey slippers and Key Stage Three (blue and grey) ties for the year ahead. Please do consider checking our secondhand uniform stall at the Summer Fair for any 'next size up' uniform - there will also be a pop-up shop in Eastfield over summer. **We would appreciate any donations of good quality uniform and PE kit - washed or unwashed - on Friday 22 July to provide more pieces for the pop-up shop.** Students will be permitted to wear sportswear on Friday 22 July as this will also be our school sports day.

Cont'd ...

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We are very mindful of the pressures facing families at the moment - please be aware that students will be provided with a basic set of equipment including pen, pencil, ruler and planner on the first day back in September. Please remind your children that they should look after their equipment and bring this to school every day in a school bag - planners particularly must **not** be placed in blazer pockets as this causes damage.

We have been asked by North Yorkshire County Council for your help - they are very keen to gather views of everyone involved in school immunisations including parents and carers - please can you complete the survey by clicking on this link: [School Aged Immunisation Survey for Children, Parents & Carers, and School & Education Stakeholders](#) The survey closes on 22 July so we would ask that you complete this as soon as possible.

We have been made aware of a useful activity for the summer holiday - free hour-long Swimsafe sessions are taking place at North Bay from 8 August for children and young people aged 7 - 14 who can swim 25 metres. These are delivered by the Andrew McGeown legacy fund and supported by the RNLI and Swim England and can be booked via swimsafe.org.uk.

Finally, due to some changes being made for the school year ahead, we have amended the schedule of Teacher Training Days for 2022 - 23. The 'Skipping Day' training day has been moved to September. School will start for **all students** on **Wednesday 7 September**. A list of all holiday dates are attached to this email. Final details regarding the return to school will be shared in a letter at the end of the school year, along with a farewell to those staff who are leaving us and a welcome to the new colleagues who will be joining #TeamPindar in September. We do have a number of support staff vacancies available now for the new academic year - if these are of interest to you or members of your family / friends, please do share this link with them as some close this evening: <https://www.mynewterm.com/search/>

It has been a very busy term in school - our students have participated in a huge number of exciting and aspirational activities and we hope you are enjoying seeing photos of these on our social media channels. Our next edition of the Pindar Press will land in your inboxes at the end of term and we hope you will enjoy reading about this term's events. We are looking forward to seeing lots of you at the Summer Fair and school show and look forward to a very successful and enjoyable end of term.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Welsh
Principal