



October 2020

WELCOME to our occasional newsletter for parents of Year 7 students. It has been lovely this half term to see Year 7 settle in to life at secondary school and begin to grow and mature in themselves. They have coped admirably with both the transition to high school, and the COVID secure systems that we have put in place over the summer. We take pride in celebrating the successes of our students, both in and out of school, and look forward to many more of these during the year. Please encourage your son/daughter to let a member of the Year 7 team know of their achievements so they can be included in future editions.

Miss Thursby and Mrs Evans

HOW TO...MONITOR BEST AND DETENTIONS Please use your IRIS login details, and encourage your child to do the same, so that students are aware of how many BEST points they have and when they have detentions. It is important that, early in Y7, students begin to take responsibility for themselves, and they should not be relying solely on form tutors to remind them. Login information and assistance can be obtained from Reception.

YEAR 7 PROJECT

The Year 7 'Living Well' assembly this week has focussed on the theme of 'Understanding Others'. As a reflection task, students were asked to complete an autumnal leaf with a recent act of kindness they had been witness to. The leaves are gradually being collected together to produce a group display in the school's Reception area that celebrates and unites the year group.



BEST UPDATE

Total BEST points awarded to Year 7 students so far this year – a whopping 37,767!

Students can now exchange their BEST points for rewards via the form on the student dashboard.

Every student who has been with us since September has already earned enough BEST to exchange for a reward.

The student who tops each form group on a weekly basis will receive a celebratory email and sweet treat from Miss Thursby!

WHAT'S GOING ON...

Year 7 will have access to our Bistro dining facility during lunchtimes following half term. Please look out for the Schoolcomms detailing how to top-up students' accounts, and providing the current menu.

There is currently a 'Design a Christmas Card' competition running for Year 7 students. We are after a winning design to send to all of our feeder primary schools. Full details are on Satchel:One (Show My Homework).

Following the success of the '7 Before 7' reading challenge, the English Department have launched '8 Before 8' with students.

Mrs Evans and Miss Thursby have really been enjoying looking through the 'Be Awesome' transition projects submitted over the summer. We have been overwhelmed by the number and quality of projects, but will be ensuring certificates and prizes are distributed next half term.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

All Year 7 students who participated in the recent Timestable Rock Stars competition against Year 8. Year 7 pulled off a resounding win!

Arthur Hogg (7H), Thomas Ardern-Jones (7L) and Kian Jones (7G) who were the top three students in Y7 for the same competition.

COMPETITION TIME... National Book Tokens are running a competition for junior bookworms! Guess the book characters from a series of clues to be in with a chance of winning one of 50 £10 book tokens, and one of 10 sets of books! Don't forget to tell us if you win so that we can celebrate it in our next newsletter!

<https://caboodle.nationalbooktokens.com/bookisland/>



SUPPORTING DIGITAL WELLBEING... We recognise that the move to high school is often accompanied by greater use of social media. The BBC has created a wellbeing smartphone app called 'Own It' that is designed to offer young people help and support when online and using messaging apps. The app monitors what they are posting and uses AI to offer advice about responsible online interaction. It also aims to help children manage the amount of time they spend looking at their screen.

More information can be found at <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/own-it-app>

OWN IT

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Dhillon-Krishna Jehamohan (7S) who has completed the highest number of Tassomai English and Science daily goals across Year 7 (48)!

Michael Thomas (7D) who has spent more time on Tassomai than any other Year 7 student, with 8 hours 8 minutes this half term!

Both students will receive prizes from Miss Dearden and Mrs Bates.

We hope that you enjoy reflecting on the form photos taken of our students on their first day with us in September!







