



February 2013

In Touch

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

Although this is a relatively short-term it is also an exceptionally busy one. This is particularly the case for all students who are in key examination years as the examinations begin in less than three months time.

Year 11 students are in the process of completing their controlled assessments in most subjects and are now being directed to attend our extensive programme of support and revision which has been running every evening throughout the term and for some subjects well before. Parents of Year 11 students will also be notified shortly of the study programme which will run through the Easter and May holiday periods. We have been very pleased by the students positive response to these sessions. I am very appreciative that staff in all subject areas are giving of their time so willingly to support students in this way beyond the school day.

Just before half term we enjoyed three evenings of spectacular performance at our annual Gym, Dance and Music evenings. This year had the theme of "Magic" and our students and pupils from all our feeder primary schools rose again to the challenge to provide high quality, creative performances to three very appreciative capacity audiences. Well done to everybody involved.

I have again been asked to draw parents/carers attention to the matter of student eligibility for free school meals. A large number of the students who join us from primary school where have been in receipt of free school meals but do not continue to receive them at secondary school. We strongly believe that far more students are eligible for free school meals than are in receipt of them.

Advice on how to apply together with the relevant application form is available via a link from the parents section of the school website, alternatively this information is available from the school office. I can reassure you that every aspect of the process from application to receipt of meals is totally confidential.

It is really important that all of our students with an entitlement to free school meals receive them, the Government introduced the Pupil Premium during the last academic year which generates additional funding to support students who are on Free School Meals, looked after by the Local Authority or with a parent in the armed forces. Listed below is information relating to the entitlement criteria.

You are entitled to free school meals for your children if you receive:

Income Support or
Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based) or
State Pension Credit (Guaranteed Credit) or
Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related) or
Child Tax Credit (with an annual income of less than £16,190)
Asylum Seeker Status

If any of these describes your situation you are strongly encouraged to apply. If you require any assistance please contact the school and we will organise for you to have confidential and individual support with the paperwork if you wish.

Yours sincerely

P Ward
Headteacher

Welcome back!

We are nearly at the halfway point of this academic year and we can't believe how time has flown! We bet that Y11 and Y13 are really feeling the pressure and encourage them to do all they can in this final push for revision and completion of assessments.

This half term has been one of our school demonstrating much talent in dance and performance and we cannot wait to see the results of the House Music 'Cup Challenge' after half term.

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The Student Journalist Team

Hamper Competition.

A big well done to everyone who took part in the hamper competition! The standard this year was higher than ever and the hampers were, as always, gratefully received.

Y7 Winner	7JE
Highly commended	7HH 7CN 7GL
Y8 Winner	8CSW
Highly commended	8GN 8HL
Y9 Winner	9ESM
Highly commended	9CL 9GC
Y10 Winners	10TP } joint
Highly commended	10AD } first! 10GO
Y11 Winner	11LDE
Highly commended	11HD 11HG
Y12 Winner	12PK
Highly commended	12HK 12HO
Y13 Winner	13FM
Highly commended	13AN



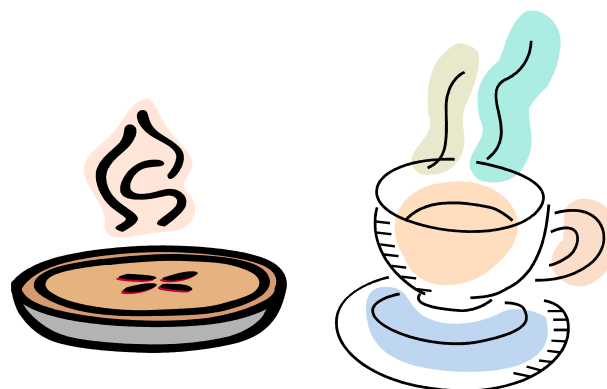
Elf School

On the 8th December 2012 8 Wath Comprehensive students (Lauren Hudson , Amber Millington, Elisha Padgett, Hannah White, Ruth Bradbury, Natasha Stansfield, Emily Johnson and Brooke-Tyler Sweeting) ran an Elf School in Rotherham Town Centre.



It was a great success, and many people attended the stalls which included; cake decorating, pine cone decorating, making baubles, cards, letters to Santa and gift tags.

Whilst the children were enjoying the activities, parents could relax in our coffee shop, and enjoy the tea and mince pies on offer.



The event lasted 4 hours, the time flew by, and all too soon the event was over.

The event was very successful and Rotherham council have asked us to do the event again next year.

A huge congratulations to all those involved.

Christmas Concert

I would like to say a huge congratulations to all 128 students who participated in the hugely successful Christmas concert. Their performances were fantastic and the students conducted themselves in a very professional manner.

I would also like to thank the parents/guardians for their continued support to the music department.

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"I'm currently a year 12 student at Wath and I've been in every Christmas concert since year 7. Christmas 2012 was the best concert I've participated in! This year we played all seasonal pieces which definitely got the audience in the festive spirit as well as the participants. I had so much fun on stage playing with the Jazz group and concert band and I believe our enthusiasm was radiated within our performance!"

Suzy Beanland Y12



Looking ahead we have Rock Night in March, Fundraiser Concert at Wath Parish Church in April and Wath Festival in May.

Christmas Panto

This year's pantomime was an adaptation of Little Red Riding Hood. It was a big hit!

The story followed some of the traditional tale's events, but also blended a serious message about giant companies, their attitudes to small businesses and the effect on communities.

There were fantastic performances by all who played a role: whether dancers or actors and



the house was packed every night. Congratulations also to the talented team who worked incredibly hard before the show; getting the set, costumes and rehearsals ready for opening night.

For many students, it was their first experience of a large school production and well done to the enthusiastic Y7s who played a role in the show. Christopher Holden, from 7MN said "I made lots of friends in the 'Red Riding Hood' panto and I was in it and it was amazing!"

Thank you once again to all the staff involvement, from writing the script to taking centre stage as well as supporting students in rehearsals and with complex dance routines.

We hope that you managed to catch the show this time and are already looking forward to next year's extravaganza!



Caspian Sea

Our band Caspian Sea performed at the O2 Academy on 26th of January 2013. We supported local punk group Glacier for their final gig.



This gig was the best gig we have ever played and we had an absolute fantastic time.



Our band has four members, Bill Hobson aged 16 (lead vocals and lead guitar), Jake Kirkham aged 15 (lead vocals and lead guitar), Billy Blunt aged 16 (drums) and Josh Winkle aged 16 (bass guitar).

Looking ahead, we will be playing at Rock Night (Wath Comp) in March and 'The Wardrobe' in Leeds in April. The performance at 'The Wardrobe' in April is for a competition we have entered to raise money for charity.



Keep a look out on school notices for ways to support our band.

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Y10 Enterprise Competition

Earlier this month, the whole of Y10 went to the Consort Hotel to compete in the Enterprise Challenge. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to work with local businesses and showcase their enterprise skills.

The students had to work in groups to create a product and prepare and deliver a pitch to the “dragons” to persuade them to invest in their product.

The days were a huge success and the students came up with some fantastic ideas.

The winners were 10GO, 10GM and 10BS and will go up against each other in the final in March. Corey Coles, Adam Eccles and Charlie Lord also won individual prizes for the being the most enterprising student of each day.

7LD – Published poetry!

Poetry writing can be tricky at the best of times, but the students in 7LD showed their creative talent when they wrote a poem with a sporting theme for homework back in October.



The poems were entered into a ‘Young Writers’ competition which led to several members of the class having their sporting poems published in an anthology called *Going For Gold*. This ‘Young Writers’ book of wonderful sporting poems can now be found in our very own school library!

Blood Brothers Trip

On the 17th of January, 44 year and ten and eleven students travelled to the Sheffield Lyceum to see a performance of Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers*. The students who attended the trip have been studying the play in preparation for their GCSE examinations in the summer term. Despite the snow and some difficult driving conditions, the coach arrived in good time for the show and staff and students had an excellent time.

Since the performance, a representative of the Lyceum has contacted Mrs Ward to congratulate Wath Comprehensive on the best behaved group of students they have ever had at the theatre. Yet another reason to be proud of Wath students!

After seeing *Blood Brothers* live, a number of students have reflected upon the performance and have spoken about how it has helped them to engage with the play.

‘It helped me to understand it better’ said one student, ‘It’s totally different from just reading it in class. Not only do you get a deeper understanding of how the play should be performed, you also get to see the set design. I found that seeing the set helped me to understand the context of the play.’

Another student explained that they enjoyed the experience as a whole: ‘I loved going to Sheffield to see the play. It was really exciting to go to a theatre. I’ve never been to a theatre before and so it was all new.’



Thank you to all who supported and promoted the trip and, most importantly, the impeccably behaved students that represented the school so well on the night.

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Literacy Corner

Lateral Thinking Puzzle

Can you solve the following riddles?

What starts with an E, ends with an E and usually contains only one letter?

In which sport do winners move backwards and losers move forwards?



Wonderful Word Of The Week!

N B B P W N B D J Y D H I C O
 K D I E D I R B B E K E U I I
 G Z N S Y L T K T D R T O T Q
 B E N S Q K M A V F K P J N S
 H F Z I Y Q X I R P T Z K E H
 C I E M V I S D N I W Z F H E
 R V G I F N J U M L L B O T R
 M W U S N V N I O B J L E U R
 Y S X T G A S J I I W V G A H
 L U C I D T S J N A C V D Y O
 B G T C I F I I E H F A F Z N
 S P O C Z D Y Z P R P R N G R
 Q H I E M O S R E B M U C E B
 C J X Y V L K U S R W U N F T
 A Q L E Y L O P Q W B Y I T W

AUTHENTIC
 LUCID
 TENACIOUS

CUMBERSOME
 OPTIMISTIC

FIXATED
 PESSIMISTIC

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 19th March - Y8 Next Three Years' Evening

Monday 25th March - Y12 Review Morning

Tuesday 26th March - Y11 Student/Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 27th March - Y13 Review Morning

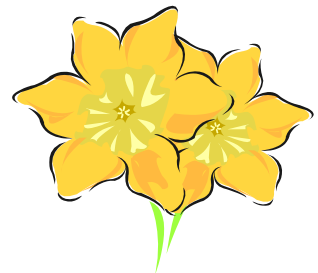
Spring Wordsearch

Can you find ten words in our spring wordsearch?

DWYTCLXKSKFSQFK
 DDZOMSIPZLKURWB
 BOAKUIAFOXICZNW
 ZMTMPPXWENBONLJ
 TREHTAEWGDZRVKU
 SUMXQRMAQVFCFCI
 BVARITSYGFLJZK
 SAGNGSTUONTENWB
 NNCESEONCPHHYFA
 MPOWXISSGPAXONW
 OBQWVDPHKNWARM S
 NJWGDIPIGZIVLNC
 SEMCLRUNEVCRTOE
 ZLWULQOEJMOTPWQ

CROCUS
 LIFE
 SNOWDROP
 SUNSHINE
 WARM

FLOWERS
 NEW
 SPRING
 TULIP
 WEATHER



Fascinating Facts

The average snowflake has a top speed of 1.7 metres per second.

Comedy Corner!

What do elves learn in school?

The elf-abet.