

South York
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

FULFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER — DECEMBER 2020

Headteacher's Welcome



Honesty

Empathy

Ambition

Respect

Tolerance

We are approaching a very different Christmas this year. We have become used to a life with many restrictions. Freedoms we have taken for granted are no longer available to us. We have all had to adapt our expectations. The pandemic has affected us all in many ways. For some it has been an irritation whilst others have lost loved ones, felt the pain of isolation or suffered a job loss. It has certainly been a very difficult year.

We have asked much of our children. They have had to get used to a new way of being at school. Some have been unfortunate to experience the need to self-isolate. A few have had to do so on more than one occasion. However, they have shown kindness, tolerance and resilience.

Our staff have also had to adapt to a new way of being. The normal flow of the classroom has been disrupted. It is a testament to both staff and pupils that in these most difficult of circumstances pupils are engaged in learning, making progress, showing respect and understanding and following their ambitions.

Headteacher's Welcome



Good things are still happening. Our award of Sunday Times Comprehensive School of the Decade is indicative of our values and commitment to bring excellence to all. As a community we have dug deep and supported each other.

The message of Christmas brings love and hope to the world. We aim to bring both into our school on a daily basis, living out our values.

I hope you and your families have a safe, peaceful and joyful Christmas and that we can look forward to 2021 with hope for a better year ahead.



“We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope .”

Martin Luther King



YEAR 7

Mr J Bonsels



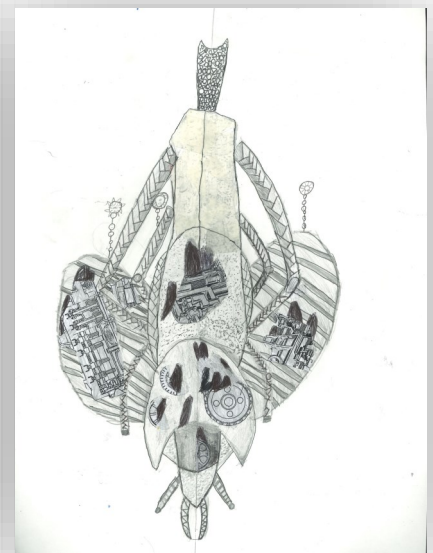
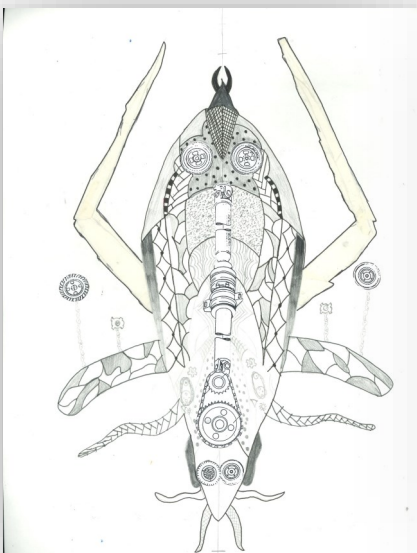
“...really positive and successful ...”

It's been a really positive and successful half term for Year 7 students who have built on their superb start to life at Fulford School. The end of term rewards assembly demonstrated this with numerous awards being handed out for meeting our high expectations for behaviour, attendance and homework. Some students have already received 100 positives and gained their silver certificate which is an impressive achievement.

Special praise should go to the students that had to isolate mid-way through the half term. Having to navigate and complete work online required a great deal of patience and resilience but this was done admirably. The students displayed all of the HEART values that the school is centred around.

The Year 7 notice board has taken shape to showcase all the fabulous activities that have taken place recently. One side celebrates the Year 7 Newsletter cooking challenge where students produced some fabulous dishes. The other reflects the work done on Anti-Bullying Week where students had some great discussions, produced some excellent posters and wore some brilliant odd socks.

Student of the month was Emma Meader for fantastic work in Science. Here are some amazing insects designed by Olivia, Bella and Lucas in their Art lessons.



YEAR 7

Mr J Bonsels



We had a winner for our Christmas Card Competition: Misham Mumtahina. What a lovely design with such a festive feel to it. Congratulations Misham!



YEAR 8

Mr P Gatenby



"...it's the little things that brighten the day..."

Well done to the whole of year 8 for their empathy and kindness shown throughout the term so far. The use of masks is clearly evident and taking care around the buildings is keeping everyone safe. Thank you to all the students who follow the Fulford Way and show respect for staff and each other by holding doors open; it's the little things that brighten the day. They are amazing in their commitment to studies and engaged in lessons and are leading the way by being diligent, interested and focused.

Congratulations go to the 40 students who were rewarded with cookies and hot chocolate for having the best reports for behaviour, effort and homework or best combinations of the categories. With top reports for their effort, behaviour and homework going to Evie Hudson, Ellie Rowson, Ella Taylor, Sam Reed, Ned Swarbrick and Sid Jeffery.



Year 8 continue their amazing run on gaining positive comments acquiring a phenomenal 9487 positives on in November alone, taking their overall total to 22893 more than any other year group, that is an average of 35 positives per student in a month so well done to everyone. We had a superb winner for our Christmas card competition: Ella Wright produced this

lovely little Christmas penguin.

Another amazing month for year 8 - December has started with aplomb with several form rooms now having a serious festive makeover! Keep up the fantastic work!

Mr Gatenby Head of Year 8



YEAR 8

continued

Student of the Month

After an excellent start to Student of the Month in September, we received 13 nominations for the October draw. The October winners were Layla Miller (8ME) for her amazing effort, ambition, determination and helpfulness in science and Jacob Webb (8SHo/NC) for being helpful, a great team player and always giving 100% in PE. In November, we had an incredible 85 nominations for Student of the Month! The winners for November were Ellie Rowson (8TJ) for her exceptional effort in homework tasks in English and Ned Swarbrick (8ME) for his outstanding performance in Drama. Congratulations!

Miss Sweet, Year 8 Progress Leader

Fulford School welcomes Miss Knox—our new Assistant Head of Year 8!

Since joining Fulford School in November, the Year 8 students have made me feel incredibly welcome. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the students and I am very excited for the year ahead. This half term we have been focusing on helping each other to achieve excellence. A key part to this was our Anti-



Bullying week in which our students learning to be an 'up stander' and not a bystander to bullying. They created kind word posters, wore odd socks to raise awareness and discussed key parts of Anti-Bullying in form. It was amazing to see so many students get involved and a special mention must go to Holly Willis, Poppy Wilson, Sam Reed, Bea Mulholland and Abi Colbeck for their fantastic odd socks!

Ellie Knox, Assistant Head of Year 8

YEAR 9

Mr S Lacy



“It has been great to see students really get on board...”

Year 9 have had another great half term, our attendance is good and stands at 96.6% for the year group with lots of students still on 100% . . . well done everybody! Pupils have also been working hard in lesson and it is great to see that 19 out of 20 comments on ClassCharts from teachers have been positive, praising pupils for their attitude to learning, good work, contributions in class and homework. It’s great to see this feedback on ClassCharts, but even better for me to see it in action every day when I drop in on lessons – well done year 9!

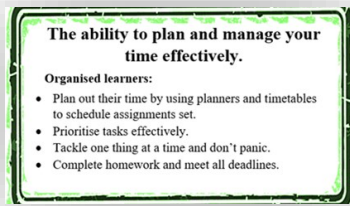


In form time we have had a great competition to design a Christmas card. Well done Tamaris in 9CCL who created this fantastic card which won the year 9 competition. Look at the detail and skill in this beautiful illustration!

This half term’s progress focus is Organisation. As part of this focus Mr Lynn has been analysing class charts data to choose a select 12 students that would benefit from some homework guidance within form times. This has seen some real gains with a reduction of negatives from those students selected.

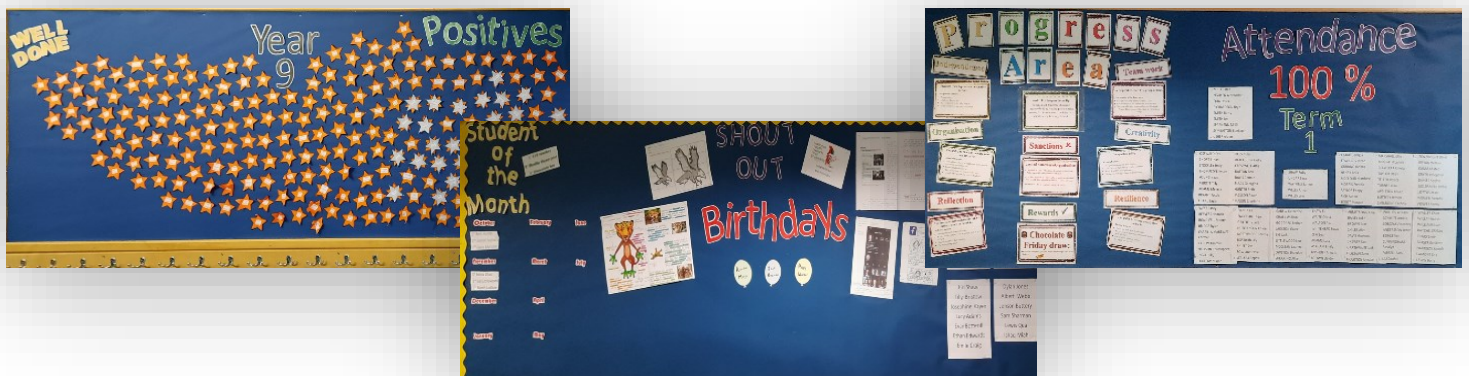
YEAR 9

Continued



Students have been challenged to gain three or more homework/effort positives within a week to be entered into our new chocolate Friday draw. To further add to the excitement there is also a form tutor draw to thank them for all their efforts within the week. It has been great to see students really get on board with this idea. They must love chocolate!

Mrs Rae has been extremely busy updating the display boards numerous students are gaining bronze stars (x50 positives) with six students gaining silver stars (x 100 positives). The gold ones will be rolling out shortly!



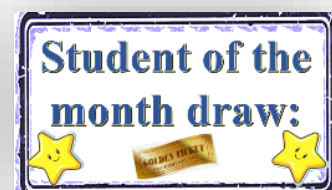
The nominations for November's student of the month had a 338% increase compared to October; this shows just how hard the students are working and impressing their teachers. The winners of the prizes were :

3rd: Niamh Ludlow (9CP/LC);

2nd: Leo Littlewood (9HJ);

1st Selina Zhao (9TR).

Well done to all those nominated.



YEAR 10

Mr S Copeland



"...good to see such progress..."

Year 10 have been working really hard again this half term. It has been good to see such progress in spite of the challenges we have all faced this term. There continues to be an enormous amount to praise across the year group with fantastic attitude in lessons and around school. The students have been working really to achieve in lessons as the work rate and complexity increases the more they move through Key Stage 4. The Year 10s have been working on a variety of exciting projects across lessons including their drama assessments and a poetry presentation in English. One group were even treated to a rap about William Blake's poem *London*—complete with inflatable microphones which were dropped at the end, of course! There has been some amazing art work produced such as these wonderful pictures. A really pleasing end to 2020.



Girl's face— Grace Dennison



Iguana—Mia Stonehouse



Jellyfish —Olivia Thon



Lily, Lucy and Eve's incredible poetry presentation.

YEAR 10

Mr S Copeland

Our winning entry for the Christmas Card Competition was this unique and professional looking entry from Lucy Bate. Well done, Lucy!



YEAR 11

Miss F Chapman



“...so impressed with the focus demonstrated daily...”

It's mock exam season in Year 11. A time of the year that many students have been counting down to – some out of dread and worry (!) but others as an opportunity to showcase their knowledge, or at least have a good reflection of where they're currently working. I have been so impressed with the focus demonstrated daily by them in the lead up to these exams.



Particular credit needs to go to students who worked from home during self-isolation; unflappable and driven even when working more independently.

Also this month, students had a week of form time dedicated to post-16. This was in preparation for Year 11 Taster Day on Friday 11th December when students will get to experience a day in the life of a post-16 student, whether that's within Fulford Sixth Form or learning about other local providers.

Congratulations to 11RJ who were crowned 'best form' earlier this month due to the winning combined average of having the most positives, least negatives and the best attendance. Worthy winners of the chocolates this time around. There were 94 nominations for student of the month in Y11 with Jack Slocombe as our deserving winner who was nominated three times by three different teachers – well done Jack!

A special mention to Ethan Shaw who has created this stunning biro drawing as part of his Art & Design work.



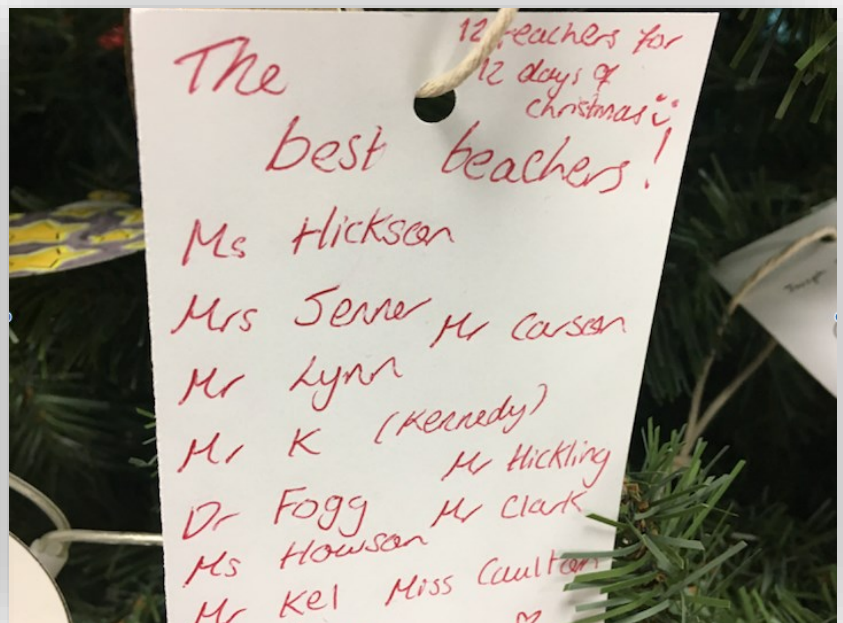
SIXTH FORM

Mrs K Davies



"...a pleasure to reflect on the many successes..."

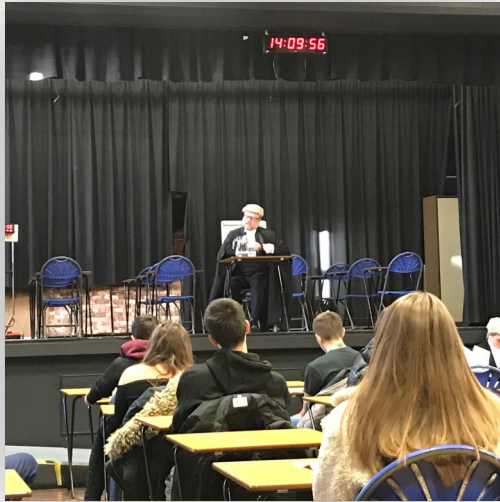
As we move through the period of Advent, it has been a pleasure to reflect on the many successes of our Sixth Formers. Our Christmas tree – now full of hand made baubles – has also become a thankfulness tree, one that our students have used to be able to express their thanks for the small and big things in their lives. It has been touching to see the thanks they have also shown the teachers.



Y12 have been impressive in their reflection on their reports and the ambition they have shown in the Enrichment programme. While our football team has trained hard this term in preparation for a forecast match against the Y13, we have also had the launch of our Sixth Form newspaper and ran a mock trial that has included barristers from the Queen's Council. All fabulous experiences and hours that will count towards their HEAR award.

SIXTH FORM

CONTINUED



And our Y13 have focused on their UCAS and this term will see the conclusion of the applications, with many students taking part in interviews. All interviews are virtual and students have been able to use our specially set up interview room to complete these. Y13 have also been the first year group to trial our virtual Parents Evening system and we would like to thank all the parents and carers for their support in this. The system offered great flexibility and was a great success. Y13 are now starting to prepare for their mock exams in January and I am sure they will use this as an opportunity to showcase their excellence.

Finally, the last weeks have been defined by Christmas cheer with Christmas jumpers and dinner bringing festive spirit to our common room. We raised £100 with our Christmas Jumper day donations and gathered a great trolley full of food for the York Food Bank. This was the last Christmas dinner for Danielle – our wonderful catering wizard – who has worked in the sixth form for a number of years but will be moving back to the main canteen in January. I would like to thank her - on behalf of all the students and staff – for all her fabulous work in the Sixth Form. She will be greatly missed!

SPOTLIGHT ON...THE CANTEEN!



Each half term, we will be shining the spotlight on an aspect of our school.

This time Amanda Gunn, our well-loved Kitchen Manager, was interviewed about the canteen.



Q: How has it been since September?

A: It's been busy as usual! There has been really good uptake of hot dinners. The split lunch has been working brilliantly. We are fortunate to have a large dining area. A lot of schools have had to only provide grab bags of food, but we have been able to continue to provide a free choice, hot meal throughout the term.

Cleanliness is obviously paramount at all times for us as caterers, but we have ramped it up even more during our return to school. Each year group has separate equipment on trolleys and the students have been great at clearing away after themselves. My team are incredible at cleaning between sittings—they have got the system down to a fine art!



Q: What have been some of the highlights this term?

A: Christmas Dinner was really fantastic and fun as always! It has also been so great to see the Year 7s improve as they come through for dinner; they are now faster and getting their food which helps every year group above them.

Q: What is your team like?

A: They are just absolutely brilliant. We work as a team, all contributing ideas and our expertise. They are not only fantastic cooks, they are also really great with the children, building relationships with the students and making them feel at home. We have a pastoral role to play as students often relax and share their day with us in a way that they might not with other staff. It's so important for us all that lunchtimes are a positive experience for our kids.

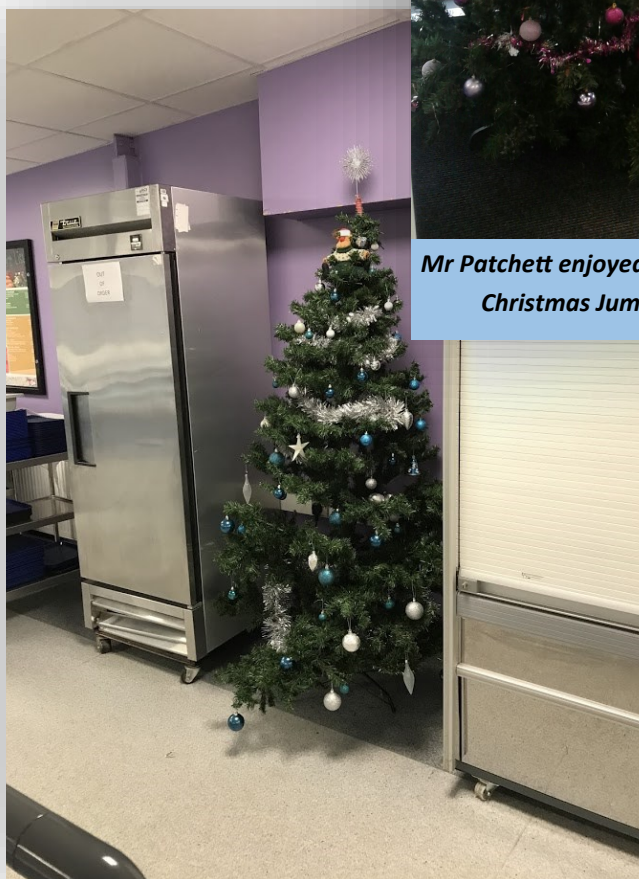
Q: How have you found the students since September?

A: They have been MARVELLOUS!

SPOTLIGHT ON...THE CANTEEN!

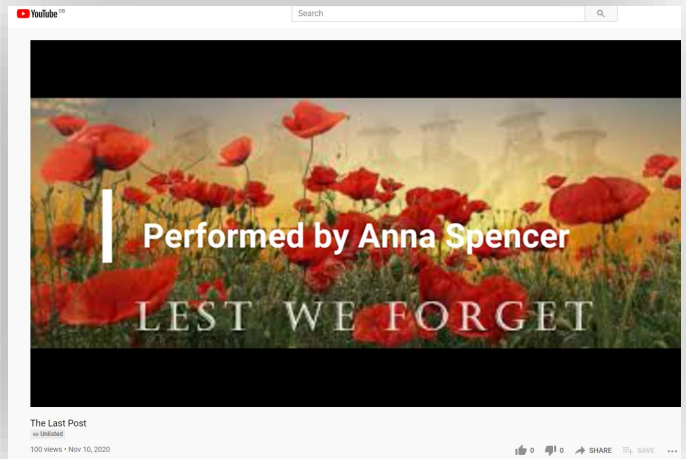


Mr Patchett enjoyed his Christmas dinner. He also took Christmas Jumper day to a whole new level!



EXTRA CURRICULAR

At the beginning of this half term, we marked Remembrance Day with a touching tribute to our war heroes: Anna Spencer in Year 10 played the Last Post and a recording of her superb performance was streamed into every classroom at 11 a.m. before our two minute silence. Thank you, Anna, for your music. We understand the sacrifice which was made by our war dead and feel grateful every day for the freedom they gave to us. We also honour those who work to maintain this freedom every day across all parts of our armed services.



Extra-curricular music rehearsals have looked a bit different this term, with choir rehearsals taking place online after school. We have been enjoying learning Christmas songs to share with care home residents through Musical Connections, and also in preparation for the virtual Christmas concert. The concert will be shared in the last week of term via the school website, social media pages and the school you tube channel. Students have been rehearsing Christmas music on their instruments in year group bubbles, and will also be sharing solo performances.

CHARITY WORK

Christmas Jumper Day has become a tradition across the country and something as a school we support each year. This year the pupils wanted to support the local community, with the Sixth Form Leadership Team choosing the York Food Bank as an essential provision for York this Christmas.

Christmas Jumper Day was extremely successful with pupils wearing their Christmas Jumpers and donating items of food or a monetary donation. Staff and pupils made a tremendous amount of donations

on this day. Here are Ms Towle, Miss Greene and Mr Nixon showing off their fab jumpers!



To build on this further an idea started within a Year 7 form then shared across the school was a Form Christmas Hamper - where pupils in each form created their own hamper that would also be donated to York Food Bank. This resulted in a phenomenal amount of food items being donated and developing the pupils' empathy for the local community. The outcome shows the importance of the school's HEART core values in everything we do; an outstanding amount of food was donated by everyone at the school, alongside £1,090 also being raised through the fundraising efforts on Christmas Jumper day. Pupils are extremely proud of what they have achieved and the huge success of the collection.



CHRISTMAS 2020

Design a Christmas Card Competition

Pupils in Year 7 - Year 10 were tasked with designing the school Christmas Card. The aim was to use this to send to the local community as we usually would, but also to look at including the Care homes in the local community in this very different year. Pupils were keen to take part in the competition with over 200 entries being submitted. The Sixth Form Student Leadership Team were the instigators of the competition and chose the winner for each year group. It was then taken further when the Head Student contacted Age UK explaining what we had done and if they could use it in any way. Age UK wanted to become involved with the school and asked for 100 Christmas Cards that could be sent. These cards will be sent to 100 people that have not got the support that other people might have this Christmas; most without family so they will not receive another card. The pupils involved were incredibly proud that their cards would be used to brighten up someone's Christmas in what has been a very difficult year.

Following this Fulford School and Age UK are going to look at linking further to create more opportunities to support whenever we can.

You can see the beautiful winning designs throughout this newsletter—what talented artists we have.



CHRISTMAS 2020

Guess the Santa

We had a fun and silly end to the year with our Guess the Santa competition. Forms had to guess which member of staff was hiding behind the Santa disguise. There were some fairly hysterical guesses and one form got 15/15—congratulations 11KS!



Mr 'Santa' Rosie!



Miss 'Christmas' Butterfield!



FAREWELLS AND CELEBRATIONS

We have two members of staff who are retiring this term. Helen Tabert is a TA who has worked at Fulford since 2001. Nicola Thompson is a TA who has worked with us since 1993.

We wish you both all the best and thank you for all you have done for the students at Fulford School. Your dedication over such a long period of time will have left a legacy with so many students. We will miss you!

We are also marking a significant contribution from three members of our team who have all worked with us for twenty years James Thompson our Timetable and Lead Student Information Manager, Teresa James our DT teacher and Emma Hickson our Curriculum Leader for Biology all started in 2000 here at Fulford School. They have received an award for long service and we want to thank them for everything they have done for the school over the last two decades.