

# Year 7 Newsletter



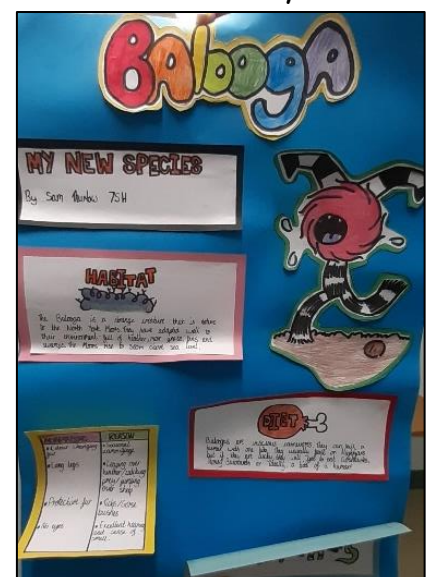
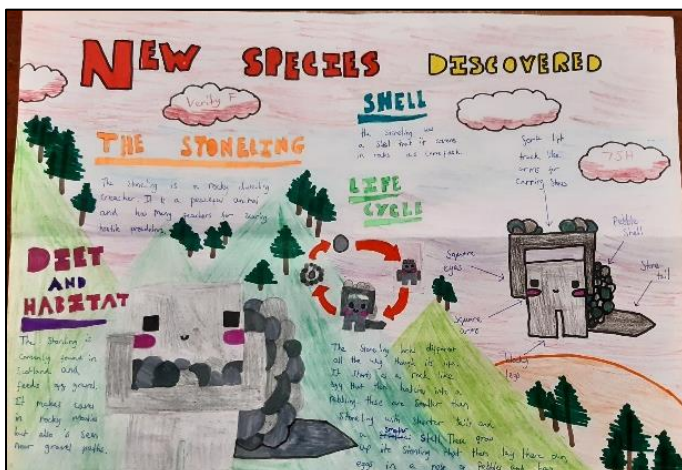
## October Half Term

Year 7 have had a very busy and successful first term at Fulford School. Staff have warmly welcomed all students into the Fulford community. Staff have reported that students are very motivated and enthusiastic in lessons. Looking extremely smart in their new uniform, Year 7 have arrived at Fulford ready to learn after the summer holidays. Whilst starting secondary school in the current national climate has added an additional dimension to the transition process, Year 7 students have risen to the occasion proving themselves to be an extremely adaptable and resilient group of young people. Despite the plethora of new information for students, they have adjusted well to new routines and have seamlessly settled into life at Fulford School.



## Transition Tasks

As part of the transition from primary school to secondary school, students were given a variety of transition tasks to complete. It's clear that students have worked very hard on these activities and their subject teachers have highly praised their efforts! They have made a great first impression to teaching staff in these subject areas, especially in Science.



## Form Time

Form activities this half term have incorporated reading, quizzes, assemblies, celebrations of positives from Class Charts and bespoke sessions linked to homework. Assemblies lead by Mr Harris (Deputy Headteacher) and Mr Bonsels (Head of Year 7) have supported students in learning about the new systems and expectations at secondary school, and have created a greater sense of tutor group identity. Miss Southall (Year 7 Progress Leader) has delivered tutor sessions to support students in adapting to the new demands starting secondary school with regards to homework, from both a practical and academic perspective. Students have discussed and appreciated the direct link between a high quality homework and strong academic progress and understand how skills gained prepare them for further study and future employment. To promote this further, Mr Bonsels launched a homework inter-form competition for the most positives in the final two weeks of terms. The winners will be announced in assembly after half term!



## Celebration Event

A select number of students ended the half term with a small celebration event in the canteen. Those students with the best report grades were treated to hot chocolate and cookies in the canteen in recognition of their hard work and effort during the first half term. A big well done to those who attended.



## What does it mean to be a Year 7 Student at Fulford School?

As Year 7 students are approaching the milestone of completing their first half term at Fulford School, in tutor time sessions students have been participating and contemplating what being a Year 7 student at Fulford means to them. There were some fantastic comments which summarise their thoughts:

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means making friends and showing perseverance so we can work as a team, always being kind to each other and following the heart values

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means being positive with one another in our daily surroundings and having the courage to think of others and cheer them on!

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means having a responsibility for our actions and our property

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means being respectful and helping those in need.

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means being resilient and learning new things with increasing independence

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means having ambition and reaching for high goals so that we are doing our best at all times

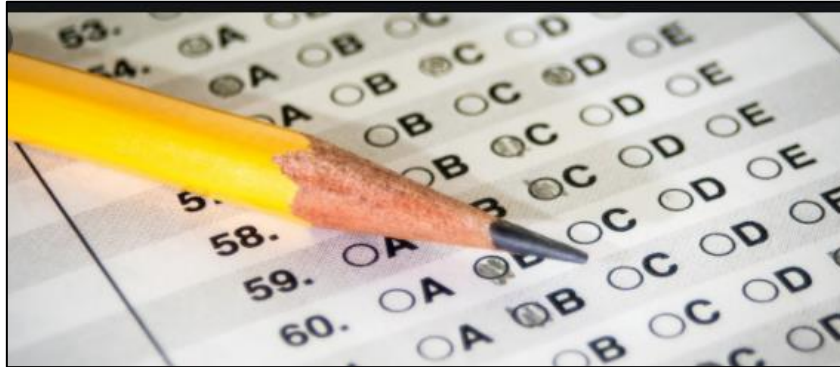
Being a year 7 student at Fulford means supporting each other and having strong empathy to make everyone in school feel like they are part of an extended family

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means being courageous and taking chances while having respect for others and helping to create a happy environment for learning

Being a year 7 student at Fulford means we can be ourselves and make new friends

## The CATS Tests

The CATS tests this term showed the maturity, organisation, resilience and aspiration of our cohort. These tests focus on learned reasoning and problem-solving skills through a plethora of tasks including verbal, quantitative and non-verbal tests. Students demonstrated our core values and impeccable behaviour, again rising to the occasion of these tests. Well done for showing such maturity Year 7!

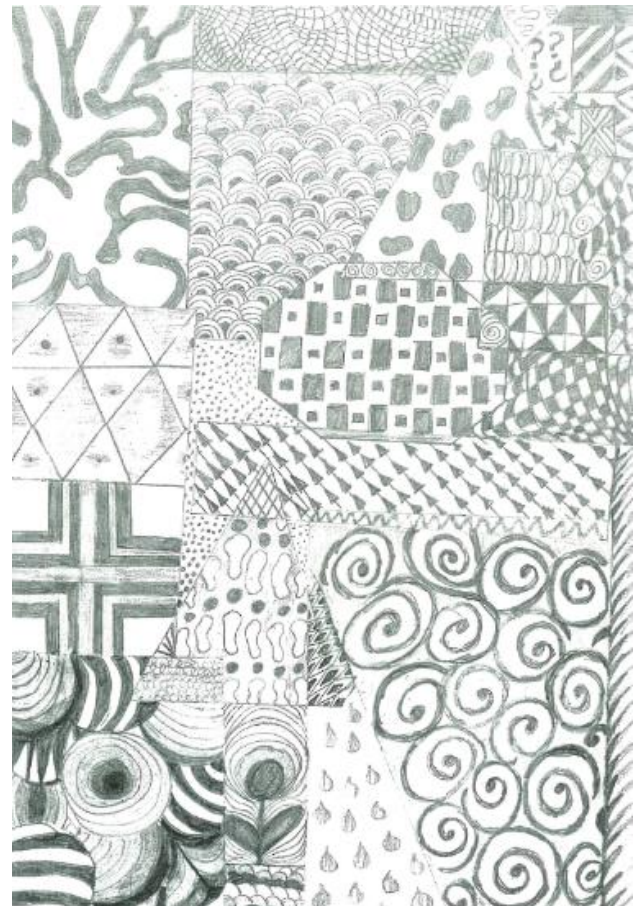
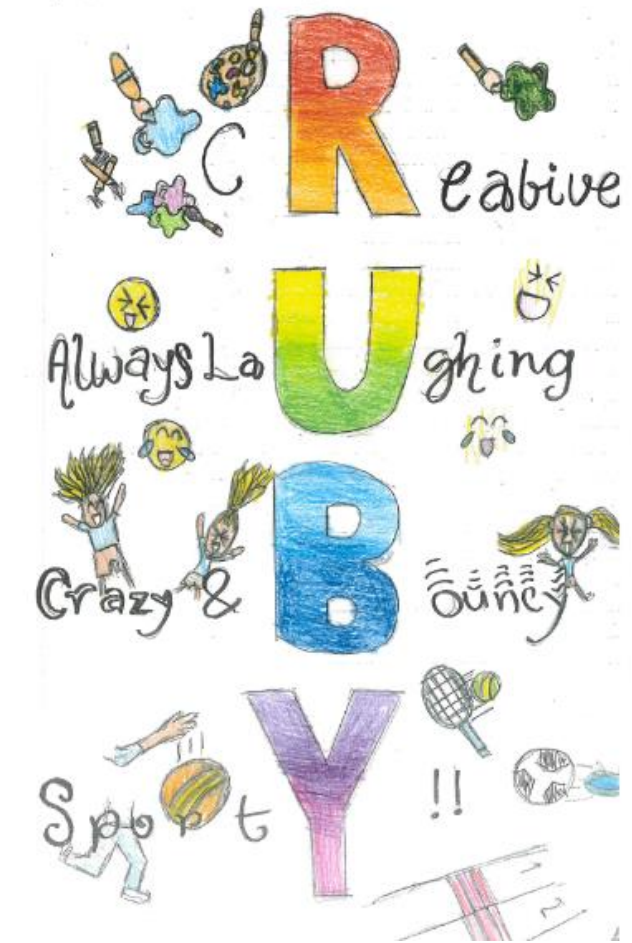
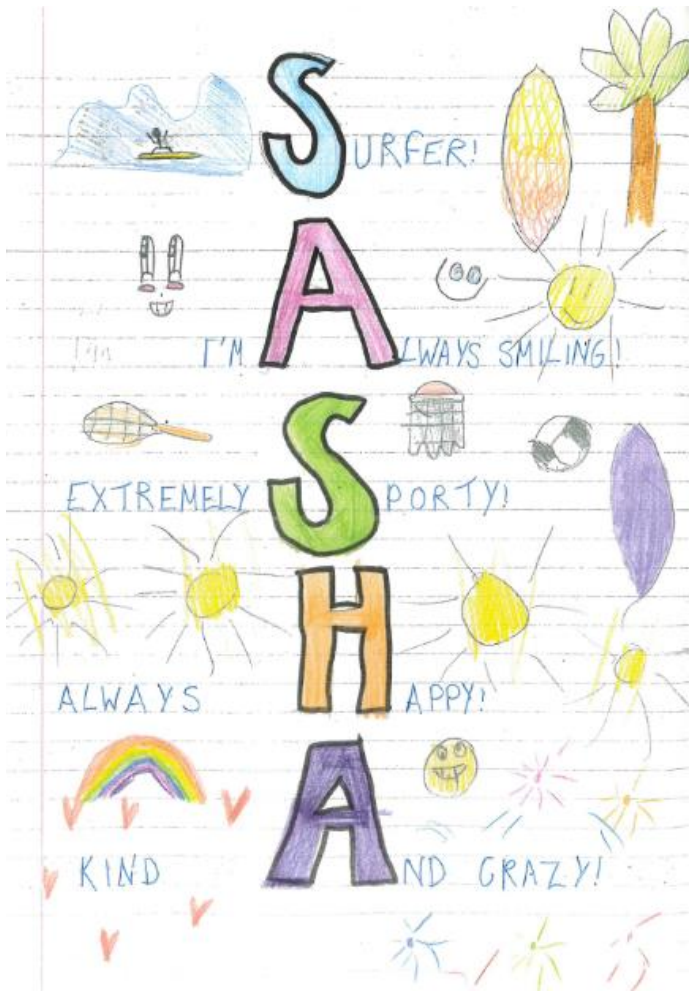


## Students of the Month



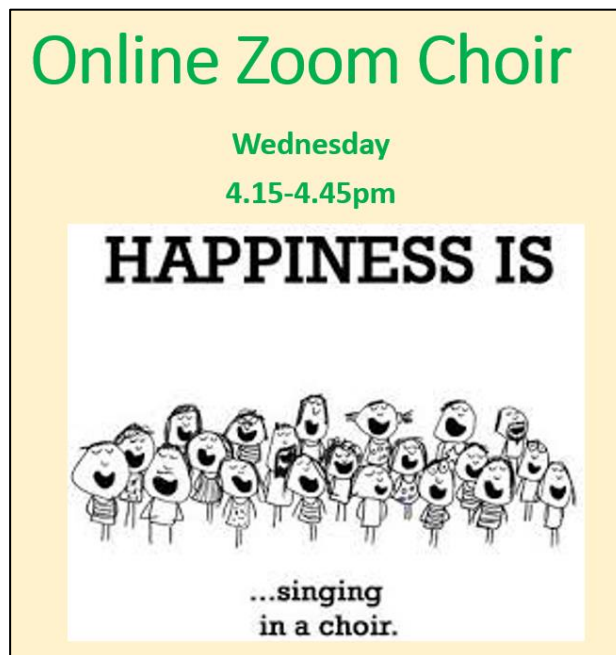
A Student of the Month award is handed out to two Year 7 students each month. Teachers are asked to nominate students from their classes who they feel have done something outstanding during the month. This could be anything from commitment to the subject, dedicated hard work or a phenomenal piece of work. The students have gone above and beyond, optimising the Fulford HEART values. The winning students will win an Amazon gift voucher or a queue jump lunch pass for themselves and two friends for the following month. Susannah Hunt 7AK and Sam Thurlow 7SH were the students of the month for September. Susannah's nomination was for excellent work in English, and Sam Thurlow for his fantastic transition work in Science. For October, Matthew Bradley 7BA was the winner for showing great initiative and knowledge in science. The runner up was Luce Craig 7AJ who was nominated for being incredibly enthusiastic and hard working in Science, asking really good questions and always keen to interact with lessons. She is also very polite and willing to help others without being asked. A huge congratulations to our Students of the Month!

Example work from Art and Personal Development



## Virtual Choir

Miss Durham has launched a virtual choir through Zoom. Students have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to be expressive and learn new songs. The group have been busy rehearsing 'Hit the Road Jack' and 'Lean on Me' and are hoping to perform in the much anticipated Christmas Showcase. If your son/daughter would like to take part, please email Miss Durham directly [durhamh@fulford.york.sch.uk](mailto:durhamh@fulford.york.sch.uk), she will arrange for them to have access to the Class Charts group with the Zoom link, lyrics and resources to join in. Miss Durham will provide further should you be interested in joining in!



## Interim Reports

The end of this busy half term also brings the first of the interim reports for Year 7 students. These provide an overview of how students have settled in to their academic studies (including new subjects!) for both students and parents/carers. Students are given a grade from 1-5 for their effort, behaviour and homework in each subject studied. Further detail about the criteria for each grade will be outlined alongside the report. An overview, however, is the following.

1 = Excellent

2 = Good

3 = Satisfactory

4 = Variable

5 = Poor

These reports represent a useful tool moving forward to help students focus and will hopefully lead to many positive and reflective conversations both at home and at school. You could help support your child by discussing the report with them during the half term break.

## Homework and Class Charts

The students have done extremely well to manage the increased demand in homework that comes with attending secondary school. We're still encouraging students to write down all the homework they're given in their planners as well as checking Class Charts on an evening to check they have completed all pieces of work set. We're asking for parental support with this too. If any parent has not logged in to Class Charts, half term would be an ideal time to do so to get used to the layout and help support your child. Just helping them get into good routines will ensure they develop independent skills needed for life. A big thank you for this.

## Half Term Challenge!

Each half term there will be a challenge which will take on a different theme. We are encouraging as many Year 7 students to get involved in this as possible. It is an opportunity for them to go beyond the classroom and stretch their creative abilities. The challenges will be directed specifically at students to get them learning and engaged in wider aspects of the curriculum.

This half term's challenge is Food Technology themed! Food Technology will be a new subject for all Year 7 students. Food Technology is all about being creative and imaginative which is the main theme behind this task. You will have been learning about different recipes and meals in lessons, and with this in mind, the challenge for this half term is split into two parts. The first is to prepare and cook a meal/dessert for your family. The second is to evaluate what you have made by asking the people that have eaten it what they thought. Maybe you could design a short questionnaire to get their thoughts? Don't forget to take a photo before you eat it as evidence that you have completed the challenge. It would be great to see pictures of the food you have cooked and the comments from family members. Please email your culinary delights to [southalh@fulford.york.sch.uk](mailto:southalh@fulford.york.sch.uk). Everyone who contributes towards the Year 7 Newsletter will receive a Student of the Month nomination. Happy cooking!

