

Year 7 Newsletter

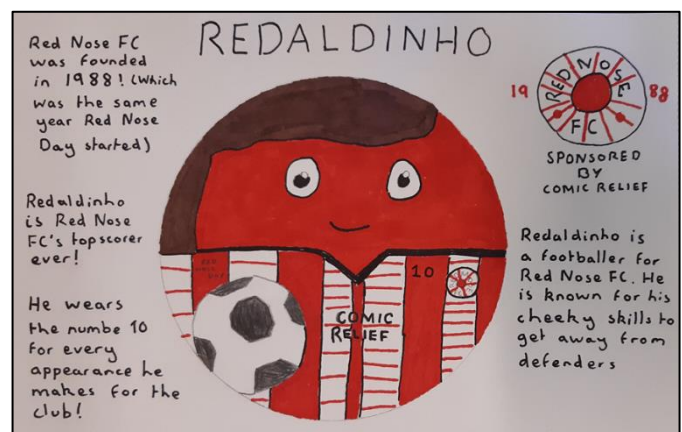


Easter Half Term

As the end of another half term approaches, there are so many positives that Year 7 students can take away. The first two weeks marked the completion of the remote learning phase where students had to continue the resilience and determination they have shown throughout lockdown. Following this, the return to school on 8th March felt like a new academic year with plenty of excitement and novelty. The students settled in really well and spoke positively about seeing friends and learning in the classroom with their teachers. The atmosphere has been lovely and the enthusiasm shown by students has been refreshing. What has been really impressive, though, is the mature approach the students have demonstrated to meet the new expectations of wearing masks to ensure the safety of everyone in school. As the weather starts to improve, the daylight hours extend, and lockdown restrictions start to ease, Easter will be a well-deserved opportunity to relax and spend time with family.

Red Nose Day

On Friday 19th March, the annual Red Nose Day took place, and students were invited to wear non-uniform for the day and make a contribution of £2. Thanks to the fantastic canteen staff, each student was provided with a cupcake as part of the donation. A phenomenal £2,400 was raised for charity which is a superb effort. Students completed a form time quiz, which was won by Miss Hill's form, and they received a prize of a box of Miniature Heroes. There were also some fabulous Red Nose Day designs drawn, such as the one here by Lughan Pattinson in 7AK.



Student of the Month

In February the Students of the Month winner was Sasha Dann (7SGA-NT). She was nominated by Ms James for producing a project in Product Design of fantastic creativity and astounding detail.

The runner up Student of the Month for February was Joseph Hailstone (7SGA-NT), who was nominated by Mr Bond for always being helpful on Teams during remote learning. Excellent work! Well done, Sasha and Joseph!



Aspiring Designers

At the end of last term, the Year 7 students began an architectural project based on the revolutionary Dutch architect, Piet Blom, who was famous for designing the Kubuswoningen (cube house). The students started the project by making a scale model of these bizarre-looking structures, as well as designing their vision for the internal space. During the most recent lockdown period, they have developed this theme, firstly researching Piet Blom and his design concepts in more detail, and secondly by working on a broader investigation of iconic 20th Century furniture. Both of these elements were presented remotely over Teams. To foster their creativity, they were then challenged to develop and model their own idea for a piece of furniture which would fit into the cube house. The many varied outcomes were excellent and show the depth of talent in this year group.



As part of the Piet Blom project, students have been creating their own furniture to complement the unusual style of architecture. This prototype of a wooden chair was designed and made by Eddie Kemp in 7BA. I am sure you will agree that it is a stunning piece of work that took time, effort, and skill to produce.



Student Success!

A massive congratulations to Misham Mumtahina in 7SN who was the weekly winner of the National Design Ventura Online Design Competition. Design Ventura challenges students in secondary schools to design products for the Design Museum shop. It is an opportunity for students to develop design thinking, creative and business capabilities, and employability skills. There were over 3,000 entries to the competition which demonstrates what an achievement it is to be chosen.

Misham's magnetic socks entry was recognised by the judges as being clever and creative – I imagine it is something we could all do with!



British Science Week

The British Science week takes place every year and is a chance to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) in schools. Year 7 students got involved by entering a poster competition with a brief to design something that shows 'innovation for the future'. The deadline for this is Friday 30th April, so there is still plenty of time to hand an entry in to Science teachers.



The Science technicians also produced some great videos of practical experiments that can be done at home. These can be viewed using the link below.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLG1v-FjQa_osKpQ517ee-2uelk0j5STuS

There is a range of different Science experiments that students could do at home using everyday equipment. These experiments are accessible to download from the Fulford School website just underneath the hyperlink for this newsletter. I would advise parental supervision with these, especially with the household substances.

Year 7 Tutor Evening

We have had very positive feedback from tutors and parents following our Year 7 tutor evening which took place on Thursday 18th March. This evening gave parents/carers, tutors, and students the opportunity to discuss the transition to secondary school, remote learning experiences, and an overview of their most recent report data. Thank you for attending and your continued support. I hope you found this discussion with tutors valuable.

Key Dates

Parents' Evening for individual subjects for your son/daughter will take place on either Thursday 10th June or Tuesday 15th June 2021. To enable you to meet with staff most effectively, the date of the Parents' Evening is dependent on which tutor group your son/daughter is in. These are listed below:

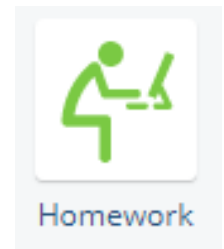
Thursday 10th June: (H Half) 7SH, 7SN, 7SGA-NT, 7SCu and 7NI

Tuesday 15th June (E Half) 7AJO, 7AK, 7BA, 7CBO and 7HD

The evening will run remotely via School Cloud. Further details of when appointment bookings are open will be provided in due course.

Monday 17th May 2021- Training day (rescheduled from Friday 26th March 2021)

Looking ahead!



Next half term, there will be a big focus on homework for Year 7 students. This is one area which, as a year group, needs to improve. Since the start of the academic year, there has been 400 negatives for homework which accounts for nearly half of all negatives awarded. I believe that homework is an important part of education as it allows students to develop skills which will be essential throughout their lives. It encourages good organisation, being able to manage time independently, and the importance of meeting deadlines. Year 7 students and tutors will be aware of this and will be rewarding students on Class Charts for homework. Positives can be given for homework for all kinds of reasons, such as where students have completed it with quality, or gone beyond what was expected. At the end of the next half term there will be a £10 gift voucher for the two students with the highest number of positives. Homework club, which runs every Tuesday lunchtime in B10, provides a quiet space for any student who wants to use a computer and catch up on homework. You can help your child with their homework by logging into the parent account on Class Charts and viewing their assignments. It would be great if you could encourage them to get into good habits about completing homework. If you do not have the parent code please email me on bonselsj@fulford.york.sch.uk.

Half Term Challenge!

This half term challenge has a religious studies focus. Research online the differences in celebrations of Easter across the world, paying attention to both the similarities and differences in customs and traditions. Your research may include the religious celebrations and ceremonies themselves, and/or the food typically eaten at this time. Present your ideas in the form of a poster, with key points of your findings. Perhaps could even add some images to support your research too. Email your half term challenge to southallh@fulford.york.sch.uk. We eagerly await your entries!