

# Year 8 Newsletter



## Starting Year 8!

We are proud to report Year 8 students have made an excellent start to Year 8. Following a challenging year of transition to Fulford School, we have been impressed with the maturity and positive attitude to learning that Year 8 students have shown in lessons this half term. They are a credit to the school in the way they have conducted themselves around site. Since the changes to the Covid 19 guidance for schools, students have gained in independence thanks to now having access to the full wide range of facilities we have on offer during lessons and after school.

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Alongside the easing of restrictions of this new academic year, students have also been able to benefit from the wide range of extracurricular clubs on offer from Space Club to KS3 Ukulele Club.

Football training on Tuesday evenings has been particularly popular amongst Year 8 students, even when there has been some atrocious weather! They have shown true grit, determination and resilience.



The boys football team have recently played in a match against Harrogate Grammar school. Despite a close battle, the final score ended with 4-3 loss for the Fulford team, but they then bounced back in the next game winning comfortably against Lady Lumley's from Pocklington 8-3 in the Area Cup. Special mention goes to Cameron Maxton and Charlie Suthers who both scored hat tricks! The girls have also been involved in a tournament at Bootham School and a match against Ryedale School. Please see the main newsletter published where you can read further information about the sporting fixtures which have taken place this term.



## Year 6 Open Evening

Many Year 8 students were involved in our Year 6 Open Evening event which took place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October. They were a true credit to the school, and were outstanding in speaking maturely to prospective students and their parents. Mr Bonsels recognised students' efforts their efforts and congratulated the students in assembly. It is always a pleasure to hear staff commenting so positively about Year 8 students and their conduct at such events.



## Chocolate Friday – focus on effort and homework

Starting Year 8, we have been putting a big focus on completing homework with quality and handing it in on time. Students have risen to the challenge and been rewarded with positives for excellent pieces of homework. We have introduced the 'Chocolate Friday' celebration in form time where students are entered in to a raffle draw for earning three or more positives for effort and homework. The winner of the draw each week wins a small chocolate reward which seems to be motivating students!

## Lesson insight – History

This half term students have been working on the Jackson's Mill Enquiry during the Industrial Revolution. Students re-enacted this adopting roles of a child in the mill, the owner of the mill, the overseer of the mill and MPs. As the photos demonstrate, students got fully involved including props and costumes to embrace the lesson.



## Lesson insight – Science

Over in the science labs, Year 8 have been studying a small topic on the respiratory system and made these impressive model lungs to demonstrate their understanding of anatomical structures of the respiratory system. They could then evaluate the pros and cons of the model as a way to explain how humans breathe. This visual representation of the respiratory process engaged students and helped them to recall key anatomical information.



## Alternative Curriculum Day

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> was Alternative Curriculum Day in school. Students were off timetable for the day and were able to explore more practical elements of the curriculum and complete tasks that incorporated elements of different subjects.

Students completed Computer Science tasks and took part in an Escape Room whilst in school. Students also then took a walk in to York city centre to learn about the rich Viking history, noting the impact building of the bridges throughout the city had in the city. They sketched and learned about Skeldergate Bridge, Millennium Bridge and Rowntree Bridge This also tied into to physics and DT in terms of the materials and structures used to ensure the stability of the bridge.

This was the first opportunity students have had to go on a trip off site due to Covid 19, and they represented Fulford School excellently.



## Student of the Month

It is always a pleasure to read the nominations for Student of the Month and hear of the fantastic work Year 8 are doing.



In September Maisie Lunn 8SN was the Student of the Month winner for fantastic effort in Maths. The runner-up was Joel Senior for his fantastic approach and for encouraging his peers in art. Well done Maisie and Joel!

The Student of the Month winner for October is Ella Hatfield for exceptional help during the Year 6 Open Evening. Great work Ella! The runner-up was Harry L Walker for his excellent contributions in English lessons. Well done Ella and Harry!

## Key dates:

Below is a list of key dates for the next half term.

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Return to school
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Year 8 Interim reports home
- Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> November – Year 8 Progress Reviews. These reviews will be held during form time between the student and form tutor. It will be a chance for the students to discuss their start to Year 8 and the progress they've made this year.
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Winter concert (all years)
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Final day before Christmas holidays

## Last Thoughts

With such a disruptive first year at Fulford, the focus for Year 8 students this year is on becoming independent learners and establishing good routines and habits. They have already started to adopt these with large numbers of positives for homework, strong punctuality to lessons and all round attitude to learning. Certain form time sessions and assemblies have focused on these important aspects and this theme will be running all throughout the year. As we continue into next half term we would like the students to keep this in mind and always try to keep working on improving themselves as individuals.