

Dear Parents and Carers

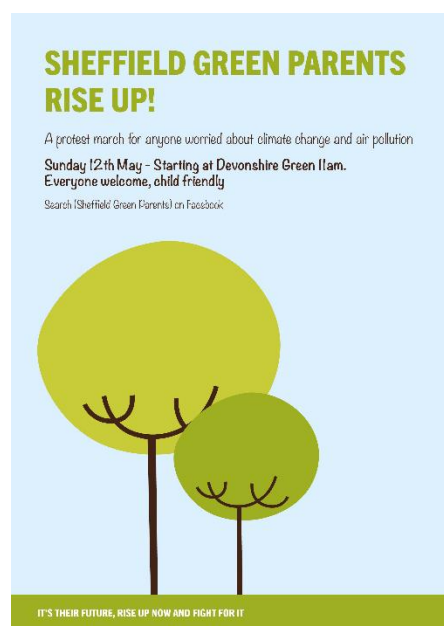
This half term all Y7-10 students have been engaging with an important question through assemblies and discussion in form time. The question we've been focusing on is 'Can the actions of one person really change the world?' Linked to this, we will all be making Eco Pledges to commit to making a difference to the environment. Dr Naylor's Ecology Group have devised the following menu for staff and students to choose from:

<u>First level ideas</u>	<u>Second level ideas</u>	<u>Third level ideas</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't squash bees or spiders</li> <li>• Plant more plants in your garden</li> <li>• Use reusable shopping bags</li> <li>• Put a jumper on instead of a heater</li> <li>• Use reusable water bottles and pack lunch boxes</li> <li>• Put litter in bins</li> <li>• Draw your own tables in class to reduce printing</li> <li>• Turn off your lights at home</li> <li>• Buy Fairtrade</li> <li>• Less phone time, more nature walks</li> <li>• Repair old clothes</li> <li>• Buy from a charity shop</li> <li>• Buy meat, fruit and veg from local shops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage recycling at home</li> <li>• Make a wildlife area in your garden at home</li> <li>• Put bird boxes and insect hotels in your garden</li> <li>• Make a compost bin</li> <li>• Carpool, public transport or walk in to school</li> <li>• Rescue insects</li> <li>• Pick up litter that isn't your own</li> <li>• Recycle or reuse plastics</li> <li>• Try growing your own fruit and veg</li> <li>• Ask the student council to investigate more vegan options in the canteen</li> <li>• Donate items to a charity shop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce use of palm oil products at home</li> <li>• Organise a litter pick in your local area</li> <li>• Cut down on how much meat you eat each week</li> <li>• Reduce how much plastic your household buys</li> <li>• Raise money for environmental charities</li> <li>• Write a letter to the council to stop them mowing verges</li> <li>• Volunteer for an environmental charity</li> </ul>

The idea is for us all to commit to making a change which would have a positive impact on climate change and make the world a better place to live in. It would be great if you could encourage this at home too. We have also been informed of a protest march on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May which families may wish to be involved in to support the cause.

### GCSE Music

We are pleased to update parents on developments with our GCSE Music crowdfunding. So far, including donations made through ParentPay, Virgin Money and the additional Gift Aid we have reached £4360. This is absolutely wonderful – thank you to everyone who has donated. If we reach £6000 this year we can afford to run the first year of the course. We have also made the commitment now that all donations will go to Music rather than the Arts as a whole. We will continue to fundraise through concerts and other events throughout the year to support the second year. If any parents have contacts or ideas that could help please do share them.



The site is still open for donations: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/taptongcsemusic>

## **Final Examinations**

Final GCSE, AS and A Level papers begin on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May. This is the culmination of many years of hard work on the part of students, staff and families. We wish all our students the very best of luck as they embark on this challenge.

## **Y10 Self Reporting**

Year 10 have now completed their exam week which mirrored the trial exam weeks in Y11 and are very much a dress rehearsal for the real exams.

Y10 teachers are diligently marking and preparing feedback in order for students to acknowledge areas of success but also identify areas for improvement.

The key dates are listed below:

- Form Tutors hand out self reporting cards- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- Self Reporting feedback window- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

We encourage students in Y10 to take ownership of their exam feedback and report their own successes and targets in a document which will accompany their report. This process is called self reporting and a great deal of research supports the practice of students owning their own feedback. Teachers will provide detailed feedback learning opportunities during the feedback window indicated above; students will then keep a record of areas of success and targets. The self reporting card will be taken from lesson to lesson with form tutors monitoring progress and completion during the feedback window. At the end of this process we will take copies of all the self reporting cards and send them home to accompany the data from teachers.

In addition Y10 form tutors will then take students through a diagnostic exercise where they will examine their feedback for areas of commonality and anomaly.

We are confident that this process of positive, critical and formative feedback combined with all students owning and taking responsibility for feedback will have significant impact on examination preparation in the crucial months ahead.

## **Interested in Becoming a Mini Bus Driver?**

We are looking for someone to drive our 16 seater mini bus on a part-time basis. Hours will vary from week to week. You could be asked to take students to the theatre or sports fixtures for example. An enhanced DBS will need to be completed. For further details, including salary, please contact [enquiries@taptonschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@taptonschool.co.uk)

## **GPDR Update**

To ensure we comply with GDPR we will no longer accept card payments for school uniform orders via the school office, only cash and cheque payments will be accepted this way. Orders made by debit/credit card can only be made on-line at [Pindersschoolwear.co.uk](http://Pindersschoolwear.co.uk) or by telephone on 0114 2513275.

Also, please note there has been a slight price increase on some uniform items from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

## **Lost Property**

The school office receives a high volume of lost property on a weekly basis. Please ensure all belongings are clearly named so we can try and get these back to students as quickly as possible.

If items are not claimed after 2 weeks any uniform/PE items will be passed to our pastoral team/PE department, who will wash them and use as spares for students as and when needed, all other items will be donated to the British Heart Foundation.

## Staff Car Park

Could we kindly remind parents that the use of the car park is for staff and those parents/carers with permission to collect and drop of individual students. Office staff hold a list of authorised parent/carers and will refuse entry to the car park. This is to ensure the safety of students around the school premises at the beginning and end of the school day. Tailgating when the barrier is lifted is not permitted.

Parents/carers who do have permission to use the car park are asked to ensure their vehicle engine is turned off whilst waiting.

**Thanks for your continued support of our school,  
Kat Rhodes and Adrian May**

## Upcoming dates for your diary

<b>W/C 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	GCSE, AS & A2 Exams commence Y10 History Trip to Conisborough Castle (this week) Y9 Assessment week
<b>14<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	GCSE Art Exhibition 4- 6pm
<b>W/C 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	Y8 Assessment Week
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019</b>	KS3 Music Trip to Bridgewater Hall AS/ A Level Art & Textiles Exhibition 5- 7pm
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	Barcelona Sports Trip (returns 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2019)
<b>24<sup>th</sup> May 2019</b>	School closes for Half Term ( <b>normal time- 3.30pm</b> )
<b>W/C 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019</b>	School re-opens Y10 Form Tutor reviews Y7 Assessment week
<b>11<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y10 Art trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park
<b>W/C 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y10 Geography Trip to Flamborough & Hornsea
<b>W/C 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y7 Science Visit to Chester Zoo
<b>18<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y6 Non- Feeder Pre- transition mornings
<b>20<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Netherthorpe Transition Morning Y10 Parents Evening
<b>21<sup>st</sup> June 2019</b>	<b>Curriculum Planning Staff Training Day – school closed to students (unless in exams)</b>
<b>W/C 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y10 MFL Mock Oral Exams
<b>25<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y12 Art visit to Derbyshire
<b>26<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y6 Transition Day 1 Y6 Welcome Evening
<b>27<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y6 Transition Day 2
<b>28<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>	Y13 Prom
<b>W/C 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019</b>	Y7 Form Tutor Reviews School Play- 7pm
<b>4<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	MFL& History Visit to Berlin (returns 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2019)
<b>W/C 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Induction Week Y10 Careers Information Evening 6- 7pm Y7 Maths Challenge
<b>9<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	Y7 Parents Evening
<b>10<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	Y10 English Exam
<b>11<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	Sports Day Y11 Prom
<b>W/C 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	Y9 Science tip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
<b>15<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	Sports Awards Evening
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	School Closes for the Summer ( <b>arrangements TBC</b> )
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019</b>	School Re-opens for Students ( <b>arrangements TBC</b> )