

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors and friends,



SAFETY AT THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE

May we repeat our concern about people who bring and collect students from the front entrance, at the beginning and end of school. It is dangerous, a) because it increases the traffic flow onto Darwin Lane at a very busy time and b) because it hinders others who need to use the space, especially those picking up visually or physically impaired students. Please don't do it. Most children are perfectly capable of meeting you further down on Tapton Park Road, even carrying a musical instrument, and it's much safer for everyone else. **Students in the 6th form who wish to bring cars to school** are not allowed to park in the school grounds. There is insufficient space for staff and visitors and there have been accidents.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE AT TAPTON SCHOOL - AN UPDATE

You will be aware now that for some time a national and local focal point for schools has been the 'Healthy Schools Initiative' which has grown in intensity with work by Jamie Oliver and the latest research that shows, as a nation, our young people (and adults) are becoming more obese. Here at Tapton we pride ourselves on being well ahead of the game with an excellent choice of healthy meals and snacks in the dining hall (which were mostly in place, thanks to Eden Food Services, long before the September 06 changes) a wide variety of extra curricular activities (sporting and non sporting) for students and staff and a well documented Travel Plan which includes initiatives like cycling proficiency provision encouraging safer and healthier ways to travel. Recently we carried out the Healthy Schools Audit at Tapton and found there were only a few areas for us to work on in the coming year and that we can apply for Healthy School 's Status now that we are working on these. We expect to apply for the award some time in November after I have a meeting with our Healthy Schools Advisor.

The areas to be worked on are:

- A Whole School Food Policy.
- A Whole School Confidentiality Policy.
- More communication with parents and students on issues including food, Physical Education (lessons and extra-curricular), Personal, Health and Social Education Lessons and Mental Health and Well-being – so watch this space! Also watch out for the Healthy School 's leaflet which should be ready for parents in time for the Year 11 Parents Evening in November.

A committed and dedicated team of staff have already started work in these areas.

We will announce via the Wednesday Letter and the school website in the next couple of months when a draft whole school food policy is available for you to have a look at. You can email school to discuss any healthy schools related issue or indeed to register an interest. Should this not be possible please feel free to contact me by phone at Tapton.

Paul West, Healthy Schools Coordinator and Assistant Head - enquiries@taptonschool.co.uk



PERSONAL POSSESSIONS AND AVOIDING TEMPTATION

Many students now regularly bring expensive electronic equipment (phones / I-pods) to school and leave them around in places where others can easily steal them. Please don't make it easy for thieves and impossible for us to trace them. Hand valuables to the PE staff for safe keeping. Don't leave them in bags and pockets from which stealing is easy. Every criminal in jail went to school somewhere!



OTHER COMING EVENTS

Weds 11th October
Oct 14th -20th
Thurs 19th October

Early Closure (1.45 pm) to prepare for Y6 Open Evening at 7 pm
Y11 Study Visit to France
Y12/13 Art Visit to London

Fri 20th October	Training Day – School closed to students
Oct 23rd-27th	Half Term Holiday
Mon 30th October	First day back
Weds 8th November	Zambian Evening 7.30 School Hall
Fri 10th November	Whole School Sponsored Walk
Nov 13 - 17	Y9, Y10 Monitoring Week
Tues 14th November	6th Form Open Evening 7.00 to 9.00 p.m
Sat 18th November	PTA Autumn Fayre 12.30 p.m. School Hall & Dining Room
Nov 27 – Dec 6	Y11 Mock GCSE Exams
Weds 6th December	Y7 Parents Evening
Dec 12 - 14	School Production: 'Bugsy Malone' 7.30 School Hall
Mon 18th December	Carol Service 7.30 St John's Church, Ranmoor
Weds 20th December	Last Day of Term
Thurs 4th January	First Day of Spring Term



THANKS TO LAST YEAR'S Y11S FROM WESTERN PARK HOSPITAL CANCER APPEAL

We've received a letter thanking you for the generous donation of £300 following the prom. Students agreed to donate the funds rather than receive refunds on their admission money when it was clear we were making a windfall profit on the event. The senior Fundraiser has said they are extremely grateful for this help in pushing forward the frontiers of cancer treatment. Work has now started on the new chemotherapy unit. Your donation is very much appreciated by everyone at Weston Park and the Cancer Appeal.



AND WHILE YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT CANCER, COULD YOU HELP SOMEONE ELSE?

Last Saturday, Oct 7 th , one of our Y9 pupils took part in a sponsored abseil down Hillsborough Stadium to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Unit at Weston Park . He'd never done it before, so it was quite a challenge. His aim was to raise at least £80 in sponsorship. Could you help him retrospectively. You can contact his mum on 266 0010.



LOOKING FOR STUDY SUPPORT

SADACCA run a scheme at their premises - 48 The Wicker – primarily for African or Caribbean young people, aged 5-16 years. The project aims to identify pupils' educational needs and provide appropriate support; to raise pupils' educational standards in all areas of the curriculum, especially in Literacy, Maths & Science; and to raise students' self-confidence. Please phone 273 1975 for details.



SPORTS REPORT

Congratulations to

A Y6 pupil at Netherthorpe. As a Y6 at Netherthorpe, playing in the Primary Schools Hot Shots Tournament, she was talent spotted by Sheffield Hatters and invited to the Basketball Academy . Sbe is now playing for Sheffield U13s against teams from other cities. Well done!

Lacrosse

A good start to the season for the Steelers U14's with a convincing win over Heaton Mersey. Eight goals were scored by the Steelers in the first quarter and a further 9 goals by the final whistle. Ht Mersey only managed to get one ball past Steelers Goalkeeper. Final Score Sheffield Steelers 17, Heaton Mersey 1.