

No 09 - 16th January 2008

Dear Parents, Staff, Governors and friends,



DON'T FORGET

Monday 21st January is a Training Day. Only Y11s and others who are taking exams should be in school. And the last day of this short half term – Fri 8 th Feb – we finish at 2.30 (except Y11s).



ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION

I'm now safely back from Antarctica and getting back into life as a teacher in the classroom - quite a difference from life as a teacher in a tent! Many thanks to all supported me over the last 18 months. I will be talking about my experiences during National Science Week in early March, so watch out for details of lectures.



YOUNG GEOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION (CLOSING DATE 30TH APRIL 2008)

Fancy winning a place on a month long expedition to the Himalayas or a mountain bike? Now into its eighth year, the Geographical Young Geographer of the Year competition aims to inspire and encourage the next generation of geographers, travellers and explorers. This year's Task is to 'Explore your world' "We want you to carry out a project that involves you exploring the world around you. The project must be completed somewhere in the UK , and must involve you getting out into the real world and making a geographical investigation – it could be a survey of your local streets or a study of a stretch of coastline. We want you to bring geography alive and show how it helps us to understand the world in which we live. Your entry can take whatever form you think is most appropriate – be it a written report, a short video film, a photographic essay, an annotated map, an audio file or a mix of all of these. The important thing is that you get out of the classroom, away from your computer screen and into the outside world. "

Prizes: *Senior Geographer (16–18 years)*

A place on a month-long expedition to the Himalayas this summer. You will win the opportunity to explore the scarcely visited Nubra Valley in the Ladakh region of the Indian Himalayas.

Young Geographer (13–15 years) and Junior Geographer (12 and under) Prizes will be a mountain bike courtesy of Specialized

For further information see Miss Hollinger or go to www.geographical.co.uk and click on 'Geoglinks' then 'Young Geographer of the Year 2008'.



PTA BIG BAND NIGHT IS SAT 26TH JANUARY, 7.30 IN THE SCHOOL HALL

Tremendous dance music from the Langsett Dance Orchestra plus the Tapton Big Band. There's a licensed bar and excellent food (all included in the £10 ticket price). Come and enjoy yourself and support the school at the same time. Even better – bring a party – dance the night away (or just enjoy the music). Tickets from Mr Storer at school.



EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG

Thanks to everyone who used our easyfundraising site in the run up to Christmas. We raised £18 for the PTA with just a few parents using the site when making Christmas purchases on line. For those of you who have not yet visited this site you'll be pleased to know that you can book holidays, buy train tickets, shop at M&S, John Lewis, Amazon etc and even purchase car or home insurance , upon which these companies will make a small donation to our PTA fund. Current offers include, take out a months FREE subscription to Which online and they will give the school £9. Or fancy a FREE trial with Love Film and they will give the school £8. Join Weight Watchers on line and they will give a £10 donation to us, so everyone's a winner!

Just a reminder of the site address www.easyfundraising.org.uk/taptonspta



LOST PROPERTY

Could parents/carers please label all items of clothing with the name of the student. Although this is only the first week of term we already have five unnamed school sweatshirts in Lost Property as well as a school fleece (size 12-13 years). In addition there are a number of polo shirts and other non-uniform items. Due to limited space we now have a display of all lost

property just before each school holiday and any unclaimed items are then disposed of. We also have a large collection of jewellery, watches and miscellaneous small items. We do retain these items so if your child has lost anything of this nature during the last 12 months please provide us with a short description and we will check if we have it.

Many thanks.



OTHER COMING EVENTS

Jan 14 - 18

Mon 21 st Jan

Weds 23 rd Jan

Sat 26 th Jan

Tues 29 th Jan

Fri 1 st Feb

Tues 5 th Feb

Fri 8 th Feb

Feb 11 - 15

Y8 Church Visits in RE

Staff Training Day – no students should be in school

Y8 Parents Evening 4.30 –7.00 (Transport from Netherthorpe available)

PTA Big Band Night 7.30 – 11.00 p.m. School Hall

Y9 Evening for Parents about GCSE Option Choice 7.30 p.m. School Hall

Y11 Reports to Parents

Y13 Parents Evening 4.30 – 7.00

Governors' Meeting 7.00 Conference Room

Early Closure 2.30 ... Y11 Presentation of Progress Files

Half Term Holiday



CHRISTIAN PRAYER GROUP

Thurs 24 Jan, 6 Hagg Lane, 8.00pm. Everyone welcome. If anyone would like further details or would like us to pray for something related to school, please contact Wendy on 263 0328



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to some of our Y10 students who raised £173 for Children in Need through a Sponsored Silence and Carol Singing just before Christmas.



A BIG THANK YOU

You may recall a request for Canon EOS System accessories and lenses to complement the new camera bought in the Summer. Well ... a big thank you to Mr Peter Houtman for the donation to the school of a 28-80 zoom lens. If anyone else out there has unused EOS kit, having changed systems, please contact Mr Field.



Y11 GCSE PHYSICS RESIT EXAM

This exam takes place on Mon 21 st Jan at 1.30. This day, as you know, is a Training Day for staff; pupils are not normally expected to attend, but those who have public exams on this day must attend. We would like to invite the pupils involved in this exam into school at 11.00 to do some teacher led revision sessions from 11.00 – 12.30. They will then be able to go off-site for lunch (none will be available in school that day). They need to come in uniform. Remember to bring a calculator and report to S05 when they arrive.