

Tibshelf Community School

July 2019 Newsletter



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Message from the Headteacher

The end of the school year is always a time to reflect and take stock but this year is particularly poignant as it marks the retirement of two long-standing and valued colleagues.

Mr Kenworthy officially retired on 31 May having served the school with energy and distinction since 2005. Similarly Mr Fischer retires at the end of this school year following an incredible 35 year stint at Tibshelf. Such devoted service to our school is rare indeed in the modern world. Both will be sadly missed and we wish them all the very best for their retirement.

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Lucie Wainwright as our new Deputy Headteacher.

Many thanks to you all for your continued support this year and best wishes for a relaxing summer holiday.

Mr M Pollard

Enrichment Week 15 – 19 July

Once again, this year we have put on a series of residential visits to France, Hereford, Hollowford, Camp Hill and Scarborough. Students not attending these have taken part in a variety of enrichment activities. On Friday we are doing a sponsored walk in aid of Pancreatic Cancer UK along the Five Pits trail.

On Friday 19th July school will close at 1:00pm and school buses will be available at this time.



ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

If your child is ill during the school day they need to go to the First Aid/Medical room and if the First Aider/Medical Officer feels that they are too unwell to stay in school then, with the Head of Year's permission, parents/carers will be contacted.

Students should **not** contact home without the permission of their Head of Year.



APPOINTMENTS

Could we please ask that parents contact school in advance if they want an appointment to meet with a member of staff. This is to ensure that the member of staff in question is both available and has sufficient time to dedicate to the meeting. Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs L Crowder



Reminder from Miss Marshall Medical Welfare Officer

Asthma/ Inhalers in School

Can parents/carers please ensure that students have their asthma inhalers in school with them, alternatively they can be kept in school but must be kept up to date. Please contact me at school if you would like to discuss further.

Medication in School

If your child needs to take any medication in school time, please can you fill in the required form, which is available on our website, or send a letter with instructions and a signature.

Crutches

School can only accept your child using crutches if they have been advised by a doctor/hospital. If you are sending them into school with crutches please send a letter with a signature.



Senior Leadership Team 2019 – 2020

Headteacher Mr M Pollard

Deputy Headteacher Mrs L Wainwright

Assistant Headteacher Mrs L Harrison

Assistant Headteacher Mrs L Crowder

Heads of Year Team 2019 – 2020

Year 7 Mr Allbright

Year 8 Miss Woof

Year 9 Mr Woodhouse

Year 10 Mr Hunt

Year 11 Mr Penford

SPEAKER BAN

Please note that with effect from September pupil speakers will be banned in school.



Mental Health Matters - Student Council

This school year we have been working really hard towards improving our students' knowledge and understanding of Mental Health Matters. In October 2018 we hosted the Anti-Stigma Training for a number of local schools and trained our own Anti-Stigma Ambassadors for the second year running. The student ambassadors this year have condensed the training they received and have personally delivered it to every year group during one of our 'Drop Down Days'. We've introduced Calm Corner which provides a quiet, relaxing space during the busy lunchtimes for students who need to escape from noisier areas of the school to somewhere more peaceful and Year 7 and 8 students have received Mindfulness during their weekly form tutor programme delivered by Mindfulness form representatives following training from our specially trained Mindfulness staff.

4th – 9th February 2019 was Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. Each faculty area included a mental health focus into their lessons/homework. We led this from the theme *POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS with Food, Activity, Sleep, Technology, ourselves and each other*. Some examples of how faculties led on this included Science delivering a lesson about the importance of sleep and linking this to mental health, English encouraged a week of just reading before bed and asked pupils to ditch their phones for a good old fashioned book, Drama used mindfulness focused activities at the start and/or end of each lesson. As a whole school we created a Kindness box and postcards and many students took the time to write a message of kindness to one of their friends or an adult in school to brighten up their day.

On 16th July we hosted a specially created Mental Health and Wellbeing Day for all Year 9 students and invited some guests in to deliver Tai Chi and Mindfulness relaxation as part of our bid to raise awareness of the '5 Ways of Wellbeing'. Each activity is linked to one of the 5 ways: 'Connect', 'Give', 'Take Notice', 'Be Active', or 'Keep Learning' and students were encouraged to incorporate these aspects into their daily routines.

We continue to work closely with Derbyshire County Council on improving Mental Health Awareness and support.

If you would like to find out more, please refer to the Information tab on our school website where you will find lots of useful links for more advice or information around Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Mrs Tipping

Energy Drinks

This is a polite reminder to parents/carers that energy drinks, including Lucozade, are not permitted in school. They are specifically mentioned in our Searching and Confiscating Policy as a banned item. If these are brought into school they will be confiscated and destroyed.

Mrs L Crowder

Stationery

Please ensure that when students return to school in September they have all the necessary equipment they require including their student planner and a calculator (mobile phones will not be permitted to be used in class as a calculator from September). Equipment checks will be carried out and failure to have the complete equipment will result in sanctions for the student.

Sport



Sports Day

Another very successful day for our school Sports day on Friday 5 July. The students showed great sportmanship and team working throughout the events.



Cricket

Once again our cricket teams have performed very well over the year with the U13's ending up as runners up. Looking forward to next season.



Derbyshire Schools Athletics - Regional Finals

George Wilkinson in Y10 recently competed at the Schools Regional Combined Events competing with the Derbyshire Schools team. He came 7th overall in the Midlands region competing in eight events gaining five personal bests. Well Done!



Other News

Our Y9 girls rounders team won at the Bolsover District School Games.

Great performances from our quadkids teams.

Another very successful year for our Sports Leaders getiing involved with lots of activities.

Year 9 Enterprise Event

One of our Year 9 Product Design classes recently took part in an enterprise project where all the profits were donated to the winning groups charity. The total raised was £162.42 and the winning group decided that their chosen charity would be the RSPCA Chesterfield who are fundraising at the moment to build a new dog area.

Mrs Godley

Governors

With effect from July 2019, Andrew Dennis is the new Chair of Governors at school with Allison Beckett as Vice Chair.

See the school website for an up to date full list of Governors and the different committees on which they serve.

Mr Pollard

Attendance at School

All children of compulsory school age (between 5-16 years old) must receive a suitable full-time education. **As a parent, you are responsible for ensuring that this happens**, either by registering your child at a school or by making appropriate alternative arrangements.

Once you have registered your child at a school, **you are also legally responsible** for ensuring that your child attends school regularly. If you fail to do this – even if your child misses school without you knowing – legal action can be taken against you by the Local Authority. It is a legal offence to fail to ensure your child attends school regularly.

Legal action can involve a penalty notice or being taken to court.

Parents also face the risk of imprisonment and parenting orders. Parenting orders involve attending a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class.

A penalty notice of £60 may be issued as an alternative to prosecution, but this will rise to £120 if it is not paid within 21 days. Failure to pay a penalty notice will usually lead to **prosecution**.

Holidays during term time

The school **cannot** be expected to authorise an absence for a holiday during term time.

Taking holidays during term time means that pupils miss important school time – both educationally and for other school activities. It will be difficult for pupils to catch up on work when they return to school. Only in **exceptional circumstances** may a holiday be authorised during term time – this will be decided by the Assistant Head (Inclusion, Resources & Safeguarding).

Exceptional circumstances do not involve cheaper costs, family availability or weather conditions.

You can be fined if you take your child on holiday during term time without permission.

Cyberbullying: The Full Guide for Parents

HomeGuides have issued a really comprehensive guide to parents on cyberbullying. I would strongly advise all parents/carers to have a read through it. It answers lots of questions that parents/carers may have regarding technology.

<https://homeguides.co.uk/cyberbullying/>

Gaming: What parents and carers need to know

Now that the summer holidays are starting, many young people will be spending more time playing computer games online. It is important to ensure that any online interactions are done in a safe way, as online games are often used as a platform to target young, vulnerable people.

Check out [this article](#) from ThinkUKnow to find out what you can do to support your child whilst gaming.

Spanish at Tibshelf

For the first time, Spanish is now being taught at Tibshelf, alongside French and German.

Many schools teach two foreign languages, and some have seen a decline in what they can offer and numbers opting for languages, but we are expanding!

Current Year 9 students had the option to choose to study GCSE Spanish over two years when they completed their options choices in January. We now have a class of 23 students who started the course in May and will continue to the end of Year 11. All of these students have also studied German for nearly three years, so learning a second foreign language will be beneficial to them for further study and careers.

Director of Ebacc and Spanish teacher, **Mrs Gent**, is very pleased with the effort and commitment these students have shown towards their new subject.

Student quotes:

'I chose Spanish because I wanted to try something new and it would make stand out compared to others'

'The culture and language seemed interesting and it's a great opportunity to do something different'

'I'm glad I chose Spanish because I have now started to learn about not only the language, but also the country, culture and people'



Departures

The following members of staff will be leaving at the end of term. We thank them for all their efforts and wish them all the best for the future.

Brian Fischer
Anna Ramsdale
Martyn Slack
Stacey Thornton
Mel Freeman
Craig McGuiness
Andrew Ball

School Car Park

If you are entering the school car park in a morning to drop your child(ren) off at school, please remember that the car park is private property of the school so we politely request that you abide by our expectations and do not drive at speed around the car park and do not sound your horn at the school buses, other parents/carers or our staff. We appreciate sometimes you may be in a hurry so would encourage you drop your child(ren) off outside the school gates if this is the case.

Use of Mobile Phones in School

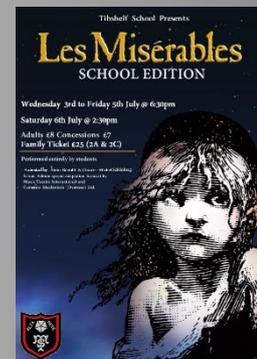
Regrettably, some pupils continue to misuse mobile phones in school. This has led us to look at revising the rules pertaining to mobile phones in school and is something that we will be discussing in the Autumn Term. One of the suggestions is for a total ban on the use of mobile phones during the school day, including at break and lunch. We are becoming increasingly concerned with the safeguarding and data protection implications that surround pupils using their mobile phones during the school day. As a school, we take the most stringent measures to ensure the privacy of our staff and pupils is protected, and we are concerned with the number of pupils using their phone to post personal information on their social media sites about their peers, staff and themselves. This information is difficult to keep private once it is on the internet, and it is difficult to establish whether consent has been obtained when the information has been uploaded online by a pupil about others. We are encouraging you to speak directly with your child(ren) regarding the use of their mobile phone whilst at school and remind them that mobile phones are only to be used during break and lunchtimes. From 8:30am until 10:50am, from 11:10am to 1:10pm and from 2:00pm to 3:00pm phones should not be out unless directed by a staff member.

A reminder to all parents/carers that headphones should only be used the same as mobile phones.



Summer Show Production

Earlier this month the school performed 'Les Miserables' over 4 days. Audiences who attended commented on the very high standard and were in awe at the performances of our young people. Well done to all staff and students who were involved in the production.



Banned/Illegal Items in School

I am encouraging all parents/carers to familiarise themselves with our Drugs/Substance Misuse Policy and our Searching and Confiscation Policy, both of which are available on our website. Random and selective searches will continued to be carried out on students from September. Students who are found in possession of any banned or illegal substances will have them removed and either destroyed or passed to the police. It doesn't matter what the item is, how much it cost or whether their parent/carer agrees/permits them to have it, if it is in an item specified in our policy it **will be destroyed/passed to the police!** Help us to keep our children safe.



Please remember to use the secure online payment system, ParentPay, to pay for all school trips and activities. If you have any questions, concerns or experience any difficulties using ParentPay, please see our website for further details or contact the Finance Office and speak with:

Suzanne Greenhalgh ext. 241

Alternatively, email: finance@tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk and a member of the finance team will contact you. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Some Key Dates for 2019

19 July	School Closes
22 August	GCSE Results Day
2 & 3 September	INSET DAYS
4 September	All students return to school
18 September	Y7&11 Individual & Form Photos
19 September	Y7&11 Year Photos
19 September	Y6 Open Evening
27 September	Y7 Pleasley Vale
24 October	Y7 Tutor Evening
25 October	INSET DAY
28 Oct - 1 Nov	HALF TERM
14 November	Ex Y11 Prize Presentation Evening
2-13 December	Y11 Mock Exams
10 December	Y9 Parents Evening
16-18 December	School Pantomime

Please check school website for any updates.



INFORMATION

School start back for students on Wednesday 4 September.

Contact Us

Doe Hill Lane
Tibshelf
Alfreton
DE55 5LZ

www.tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk

T: 01773 872391
F: 01773 873900

Email
enquiries@tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk

Telephone Options

- Option 1 Dial Extension
- Option 2 Report Student Absences
- Option 3 Student Services
- Option 4 Report Staff Absences
- Option 6 Finance
- Option 7 Site Staff
- Option 8 Leave Message
- Option 9 Reception

As part of our continuing attempt to communicate effectively with parents we frequently update our website.

Similarly, you can obtain useful updates on school and community life by following us on twitter [@tibshelfschool](https://twitter.com/tibshelfschool)

We are increasing the use of email communication wherever we can. Please ensure we are kept informed of any changes to your email address by either contacting Student Services directly or by emailing us at enquiries@tibshelf.derbyshire.sch.uk alternatively you can use the contact form on our website.

