

Our Ref: SLT/FSC-0107WSL

Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I have been collating information to put in our end of term letter but there has been so much happening at Baysgarth over the last few weeks that I'm having to write to you now and then will write again at the end of term to update you further.

This is my favourite time of the school year, as it showcases the vibrancy of the school and the wide range of opportunities that we offer our students. The good weather gives us the opportunity to run many of our special trips and visits that our students cherish for their school lives and beyond. It's also the time when our Year 11 students show us how amazing they are in the exams they have been working towards for the last couple of years.

Year 11

This year group have been truly astounding. They haven't had a 'normal' school year since they were in Year 8 but that hasn't stopped them from showing resilience and commitment in the run up to their exams. Their attitude and effort throughout the longest summer exam period ever (the government spread out the exams more than usual to minimise Covid-19 risks) has been remarkable and we are looking forward to seeing how they got on when we hold our results day in August.

Their behaviour was impeccable throughout this period and their last day in school on Thursday last week was joyful, as they signed shirts whilst enjoying music, burgers and ice cream on the field, before heading to an emotional final assembly full of rewards and reminiscences. We hope they had the best night at the Prom on Friday to give them a spectacular final send off for the summer.



*Good
Luck!*

At this point I'd like to say a special thank you to Mrs Woodward and her exams team. Their dedication to our students is remarkable and their professionalism is second to none. The annual exams inspection was passed with flying colours with the examiner describing us as a beacon school due to the quality and attention to detail of our exam arrangements.

It's lovely for our staff to receive so many thank you messages from parents and students for their hard work over the last five years. Most of them go directly to staff but a couple have come to me and I'd like to share them.

One parent has commented, *'I want to pop over a few words of thanks to all the staff that have had any input to my son's education. The general schooling, SEND support and positive experiences he has had from Year 7 to 11 has been fantastic, which has helped round him into a fine young adult. I would offer a special thanks to those staff members that have taken the time to speak with me when the need has arisen to keep his school work on track. I am especially impressed with the after school and half term classes made available to the Year 11's who (in my opinion) have probably been the most affected year during the Covid. A heartfelt thanks to all and I wish both you and the school every continued success.'*

Another parent wrote, *'On behalf of my wife and my son, can I take this opportunity in case I do not manage to see or speak to you personally, to pass on my extreme thanks and enormous gratitude towards you, your great school and ALL the superb hard-working staff at Baysgarth School from caretakers, dinner ladies, and all the teachers, past and present.'*

We salute and applaud you and your staff for your constant turning up, smiling, shaping and moulding all the children every single day, but no more so than the incredible job you have done for our own son. It could not have been easy for all involved these last couple of dreadful years out of your control. I could not do what you do that is for sure. But ever since the very first day in September 2017, my son has never once said he does not want to go to school or hated it. Even today, on his last day and last night, we have been reflecting on all the good times.'

*So, towards all his great teachers - past and present - a massive great **THANK YOU!** It's been an amazing school and would recommend Baysgarth School to anyone - credit where credit is due.'*

A third Year 11 parent has contacted us to say, *'I just wanted to send a quick message to say thank you to you and all your colleagues for the additional time, support and encouragement given to the Year 11s during their exams. I think that the input has been phenomenal. Whatever the results are in August, I've been so impressed with the school and cannot fault the Year 11s learning, particularly during such a rough two years. Please could you pass on my appreciation to your colleagues.'*

These messages are wonderful and very humbling to receive. Baysgarth is a wonderful place to be because of the quality of our students, the dedication of my talented staff, and the support of our community. Although they have to wait until August for their results day, we've had the Finance results already and we've achieved another record haul with 7 A* grades, 21 A grades, 24 B grades and 10 C grades. A special mention goes to Grace Goodwin who posted the highest ever overall score in this course.

Trips and Visits

This has been a hectic few weeks for trips and visits across Baysgarth. I've been privileged enough to take part in several myself, including taking our Scunthorpe United Reading Stars to a rap session at Glanford Park, accompanying our Year 7 students to an inspiring talk by a children's author and illustrator, and driving the minibus for the annual Business Studies trip to Alton Towers. We've also had visits to many other events, including watching the England Lionesses warm up for the Euros with their confidence-boosting win over the Netherlands at Elland Road.



#LIONESSES



But I have also been green with envy at some of the residential trips that have taken place. The Geography team had a wonderful few days in the Lake District - a really successful trip, especially as it was the first one that Miss Pink had organised and the first one to this area. You can watch a short video of the trip [here](#).



The highlight from our busy trips calendar has to be the New York trip that took place over half term. Mr Scruton did an amazing job of putting this together and executing a wonderfully organised event - especially as the tour operator said this was the first British school trip to NYC since the pandemic. He's put together a highlights reel that you can watch [here](#).

Our Outlook expedition students are still busy cooking up ingenious ideas to raise money for their trip to Thailand. Staff were treated to curries cooked for them by the team as a fundraising activity and I'm pleased to tell you that Thomas Keates has cycled the equivalent of Land's End to John O'Groats (874 miles) to raise money for the trip. If you want to support this effort, visit justgiving.com/crowdfunding/thomaskeates.

The team are also running a stall at Barton Bike Night on Saturday 9th July and they will be opening up the school car park for visitors to park for the night. The cost will be £5 per vehicle, or £8 if anyone would like their car washing whilst they enjoy the event.

It's not just our students going out to visit other places that happens regularly at Baysgarth, we also host many exciting activities. Two weeks ago, Wren kitchens provided us with a bus so that we could transport nearly 250 students from Goxhill Primary, Bowmandale Primary, Barton St. Peter's Primary, and Winterton Primary School to watch a French play at Baysgarth. They joined our Y7 students to watch 'The World's Gone French'. The spoken French was delivered slowly and clearly so that students were able to follow the story, sustain their enjoyment and boost their confidence. The French in this play includes many words and phrases which the children recognised from language lessons in both primary and the first year of secondary school learning.

Year 6 Transition

It's been very exciting to meet our new Y7 students as they've attended our Transition Youth Club in their hundreds over the last three weeks. We can't wait for our Transition Day on Monday followed by the opportunity for parents to meet their child's new Tutor on Monday evening. Those parents new to the school can come for a look around our facilities on Monday night and have a talk from senior leaders about what the school will be offering their child over the next five years and we're really looking forward to meeting you. Then we're gearing up for our Summer School; a week of fantastic activities that will bond our students together. This is already massively oversubscribed - we're really sorry that we don't have space to take all of the students that want to attend but it's great to see so many of our new families engaging with the school early.

All of our Year 7 students have to demonstrate our core values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience as part of their Expert Learner programme in Year 7. Those who fail to demonstrate our values and meet our expectations do not get to graduate to Year 8 and receive a bespoke programme, including repeating Year 7 lessons. We are treating our Year 7 graduates with an outdoor adventure trip to Raywell Park, whilst those who have not graduated will remain in school. It's important that our new Year 7 students understand the need to work hard and be kind every day at Baysgarth if they want to be successful and graduate at the end of the year.

Chromebook Leasing, School Uniform and Free School Meals

We know how difficult things are for our families at the moment with the impact that the triple whammy of Brexit, Covid-19 and war in Ukraine is having on the cost of living. Many of our families are slipping into poverty and we want to do everything we can to help. We encourage any family to check whether they are eligible for Free School Meals and to make sure they are registered for this. If eligible, it brings many benefits in terms of schooling. As we have cashless catering, there is no stigma at the tills as there is nothing to differentiate between a child eligible for Free School Meals and any other child in the school.

Those students eligible for Free School Meals also then become eligible for uniform subsidies from school and the Local Authority. North Lincolnshire Council provides a £30 subsidy and the school provides an additional £50 subsidy for new eligible families. We also look with sympathy on further requests from families struggling to make ends meet, so we would urge any parents and carers to check their eligibility and make sure they are registered to take advantage of these benefits. We've already changed our uniform policy for September so that fewer branded items are compulsory to help with the costs but we can go further still for our families in need.

This September we are also purchasing brand new ties for all of our students across the school. The new ties are to correspond to the new Houses and our Year 11 students will also have a brand new tie for their final year at school after they voted for a new design. This will save all of our families money and provide another boost to our House system.

We have recently opened our Chromebook leasing portal for our new Year 7 families. Approximately one-third of our students lease a Chromebook from the school to help support them with their studies and many parents have commented how invaluable this has been, especially as the device can be used in and out of school with no compatibility issues. We have 100 Chromebooks ordered for our new Year 7 cohort; three quarters of these have been reserved already but we still have some available for other families who wish to provide this support for their children. These devices will be open to any current Year 7 and 8 family who missed out in previous leasing windows as well as any new Year 7 families who didn't express an interest earlier in the year, but who now want to take advantage of the scheme. Details will be shared with families in the next couple of days, so please make sure you check your emails. This is another area where those families eligible for Free School Meals can have a huge benefit, as we subsidise the cost of the Chromebooks so that they only cost £5 per month - this works out at a saving of hundreds of pounds over the leasing period.

Taking these three benefits into account, a child eligible for Free School Meals will be supported financially each year to the value of more than £650, so, again, if you are struggling financially, please check whether you are eligible and register. You can find more details [here](#).

Federation

We're making excellent progress on our journey to federate with Castledyke. Thanks to all of you who responded to the public consultation. 75% of those who completed the poll were in favour of the federation, so it's great to see the community is behind this move. We're now waiting on approval from the Secretary of State and hoping that the new Riverview Family of Schools will come into being on the 1st September.

Deep Dives

As part of our commitment to improving our school, we regularly analyse the work of our departments and the quality of their teaching. Governors help us with these 'Deep Dives' and the most recent one was of our MFL team. Ellie Jarrett, our Vice-Chair, joined us for this process and gave the Languages team this lovely feedback, *'I wanted to say thank you to the staff who took time to talk to me and spend time with me yesterday. Everyone I spoke to put a lot of effort and thought into what they were showing me. I was particularly impressed with Mrs Burnham. Her passion for her department and subject was really evident and I really enjoyed being in her class. She gave me hope for language learning in the future. Hopefully she can share some of that passion with our new primary federation and get children interested even earlier.'*

Competitions

Entries for our creative writing competition have now been received and I'm looking forward to judging these alongside an eminent panel. We'll announce the winner in the next letter.

Our annual House Cup competition is drawing to a close and it is even more special this year as it will be the last House Cup with our existing Houses before the new ones come into effect in September. Sports Day plays a big part in deciding the outcome of the House Cup and we had a fantastic day last Friday, with the highlights being the number of school records that fell and the tug-of-war competition. Here's a list of our outstanding performers who won the Vicor/Victrix Ludorum prizes and our new school record breakers:



	Name	House	Event
Year 7 Girls	Kayleigh Turner	Ancholme	100m & 200m
Year 7 Boys	Riley Byrnes	Newton	100m & 400m
Year 8 Girls	Poppy McLaughlin	Newton	Triple & 200m
Year 8 Boys	Clayton Barr	Ancholme	Long Jump & 100m
Year 9 Girls	Alexis Nada	Treece	100m, 200m & Javelin
Year 9 Boys	Ben Carter	Treece	100m, 800m & Relay
Year 10 Girls	Libby Killick	Treece	Javelin & Shot Put
Year 10 Boys	Jaxon Bates	Bardney	100m, 400m & Relay

New School Records		
Name	Event	New Record
Lucy Tadman (Year 7)	Girls 400m	1.17.03
Clayton Barr (Year 8)	Boys Long Jump	5.00m
Naomi Pottinger (Year 8)	Girls Long Jump	5.05m
Jaxon Bates (Year 10)	Boys 400m	57.34
Libby Robinson (Year 10)	Girls Long Jump	4.31
Libby Killick (Year 10)	Girls Javelin	25.5
Dan Hanna (Year 10)	Boys Dicus	26.27
Clayton Barr (Year 8)	100m	12.32
Jaxon Bates (Year 10)	100m	11.75
Ancholme Girls (Year 10)	4 x 100m	63.72
Ancholme Boys (Year 10)	4 x 100m	53.12

Our Greenpower cars are gearing up for their first track competition since the pandemic. This will take place at Blyton Park and our teams, with support from Wren and Prax, are confident and raring to go. Greepower has been one of our highlights of the year and is making a difference to our curriculum in Engineering where students are demonstrating their resourcefulness and team-working skills. We'll update you on their progress in the next letter.

Sporting Success

Last month's Brownlee Foundation Triathlon at Hymers College was a huge success. 1,300 students got to experience a Triathlon and the 15 Baysgarth Sports Leaders were the only young leaders there. The organising staff from the Brownlee Foundation had nothing but praise for our students as it was a long day and hard work without a single break. Our kids were still laughing, smiling and encouraging the primary participants right through until the last one crossed the line!

Matilda

The sense of excitement in school is palpable at the moment as we are now ready to present our first school production since before the pandemic. Matilda is sure to be talked about for years to come and is already nearly sold out. If you want one of the few remaining tickets then make sure you book via boxoffice@baysgarthschool.co.uk.

Staff Success

One of the things that makes me really proud to be the Head Teacher at Baysgarth is because I have superb staff whose dedication is fantastic. I've already mentioned Mrs Woodward earlier, but she is not the only one who has demonstrated their skill and professionalism over the exam period.

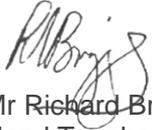
Andy Browne and Ben Wilson who have received excellent feedback from NCFE on their Engineering coursework process. They were graded the maximum six on every area with no areas for improvement and described as 'invaluable assets to their centre'.

Our Arts team also excelled, with Drama and Art receiving superb feedback from their moderators. They also described their practise as exemplary and commented on the quality of the student work they have overseen.

Andy Browne was also nominated for one of the Unsung Hero National Teaching Awards. Here's an extract from his nomination form: '*Andy plays a huge part in the life of students and staff at Baysgarth. He is a kind and caring person who will always put his students first to make sure they are cared for and develop themselves. He probably doesn't think he deserves this kind of recognition, and would never even think to ask for it as he does these things from the goodness of his heart and because he is passionate about his subject and his students. To us, that makes him the biggest unsung hero in any school we have ever known.*' You can read the full nomination [here](#).

We'll write again in the last week of term to make sure you have all the information you need for the start of what will be another exciting year in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr Richard Briggs
Head Teacher

