



Mr Marshall

Year 7 & 8 Notice Board



Mrs Was



Miss Curley

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to the first edition of the Key Stage Three Notice Board!!

We aim to produce a Notice Board for Years 7 and 8 each month so that you can be kept up to date with views and views, items of interest and, most importantly you can be kept abreast of developments in Key Stage Three with notices about what will be happening in the near future.

I am happy to say that Year 7 have settled in well despite a very challenging year with the restrictions that Covid 19 has forced us to implement. Lining up on the playground at the beginning of each lesson is something we would only normally do for the first two weeks or so yet here we are in December still carrying on with this routine. Students have been resilient in their attitude towards changing circumstances and should be commended on their overall maturity. I would like to thank Mrs Was regarding her efforts with the year group so far this term.

Year 8 have also settled in well. They have already had Ms Curley for a year and I would like to thank her for her leadership as well. Once more the year group has shown real maturity in settling down to changing circumstances and being good role models for Year 7 to follow.

I do hope you enjoy reading this and find it informative. If you need clarity on any of the subjects mentioned please feel free to email Mrs Was, Ms Curley or me, Mr Marshall.

Regards,

Kieran Marshall

Transition Manager

Primary School Transition

I would like to start off by congratulating all of Year 7 for making a fantastic start to secondary school. Despite the unusual transition process, they have now settled in and have become very much a part of the school community.

Over the summer holidays, Year 7 completed some amazing transition work, writing poems, making poster, completing the many activities in their transition booklets and much more!

We had six pupils in the year, who clearly went over and above, and they will feature in December's whole school newsletter. A big well done to 7 Wall who are also currently number one on the Year 7 form league table.

Looking to the future, I am very much looking forward to lots of Year 7s applying to be ambassadors in the early half of 2021. We clearly have many student leaders in this year group, who will form the main part of

student voice over the next seven years (long after I'm gone!) I am really looking forward to hearing and seeing their ideas over the next two years. Hopefully, many of them will choose to help Taydee and I welcome next year's Year 7!

Year 7 should give themselves a big pat on the back for settling in so well and for being kind, caring and respectful young people. Taydee and I have really enjoyed speaking to you during form time and break time, and we look forward to working with you over the course of Year 7. We still have a lot in store!

Best wishes for the rest of the autumn term .

Finbarr Ward
Year 12
Project Manager for
Primary School
Transition & Year 7



| Position | Form Group | House Points |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 7Wall | 500 |
| 2 | 7Arrowsmith, 7Barlow & 7Campion | 300 |
| 3 | 7Reynolds & 7Southwell | 250 |
| 4 | 7Mayne | 200 |
| 5 | 7Gervase | 150 |



Form Time News!



Mrs Thompson-Sadler - 7A Form Tutor

Students in Arrowsmith seem to have adapted well to life at secondary school and are very keen supporters of St Matthew House: all members of the tutor group submitted an entry into the House prayer competition and many others are also entered the Black Lives Matter poster competition.

We also have a success story with the two representatives from the tutor group (Precious and Adam) doing very well in the Inter-House table tennis competition, with Adam becoming the overall winner!

Additionally, students have responded very generously to the Christmas Hamper Appeal with two boxes being filled with tins of vegetables in under three days! Please continue to give generously to this appeal, if you are able. Moreover, I am pleased to report that several subject teachers have remarked on the conscientious attitude of the tutor group as a whole towards their studies: long may this continue!

Ms Brown - 7B Form Tutor

Welcome to the diverse, challenging, aspirational, inclusive world of 7 Barlow.

We are still getting to know each others quirks , foibles and idiosyncrasies but we are discovering that we are an awesome tutor group. Some are very vocal and will ensure that they are heard. Others will prefer the one to one private conversations. We have a “King” and a “Queen” and 7 Barlow are constantly reminded that the standard is high and it is their duty to reach for it. We have the gamut of learners and abilities in 7 Barlow. That is fantastic. All students are encouraged to learn, to grow, to be challenged. Students are permitted to fail and learn from their failure. Students are allowed to agree and disagree, and leave the dignity of those they disagree with in tact.

We are learning to love each other and become a family, even if we don't always agree.

Miss Kaufeler & Miss Forde - 7C Form Tutor

7 Champion have been an absolute pleasure to tutor since September. There is a real sense of community among the group, and the students always appear positive, enthusiastic and full of energy. Every Friday, students get to bring in their own burning questions or exciting facts and many of them have contributed great things and helped shape riveting discussions. 7C hosts a number of formidable readers, creative artists and great sportspeople. Most impressively, Miss Forde and Miss Kaufeler have been approached by multiple teachers telling them what an extraordinary pleasure 7 Champion is to teach. It is with pride that we say: 7 Champion is the best!

Ms Garrido - 7G Form Tutor

Year 7 Gervais is a lovely form. They have settled in very well from the beginning; they have made new friends quickly and they all seem happy.

They love participating in class in different debates from the USA elections to environmental issues. They are very keen to go the extra mile by volunteering to create posters about Black History Month, bullying, recycling ...

They are also keen linguists who have learnt the prayer, Our Father, in Spanish and French. They often want to lead the prayer in Spanish!

I am very proud of them and I am very sure that they will have a successful year at Douay Martyrs.

Ms Marczak - 7M Form Tutor

7 Mayne have settled in really well and they are feeling more and more confident each day. We are learning a lot about individual members of our form from the presentations they are giving about their hobbies, achievements and dreams for the future. The students consider Douay to be a friendly and welcoming place that will allow them to fulfil their potential in the next 5 years of their education.

Mrs Quinn & Miss Patel- 7R Tutor

It has been a pleasure in welcoming my form group to Douay Martyrs. 7 Reynolds have adapted amazingly well to life in secondary school under such challenging and difficult circumstances. They are respectful of the rules of the school and have warmly embraced the school's ethos and are very committed to their learning. They are a very enthusiastic group of pupils who are living the 'Douay Way' every day. This is evident in the generosity of the form in response to the Christmas Hamper appeal by donating a large collection of tinned vegetables. Alongside this, Aarav and Harry kalan proudly represented their form in the Inter-House table tennis competition last Monday and played very competitively. Well done to both! Furthermore, huge congratulations to Demba Sanogo who has been nominated House Captain for St Luke! Well done Demba! Congratulations also to Lara Schmidt who raised over £500 by running 5k for the poppy appeal for the Royal British Legion in memory of her beloved Nan. She received a Good News certificate for her efforts and a resounding round of applause from her form group. Finally, I have received very positive comments from all the teachers of 7R who have commented on the diligence and respectful attitude of all the pupils. Well done 7 Reynolds!

Ms Younas - 7S Form Tutor

7 Southwell have adapted well to life at secondary school, showing great resilience during challenging times. They are active and engaged learners who are always eager to share their thoughts and ideas; I look forward to continuing to get to know them. Most recently, we have held elections to select form representatives – allowing students the opportunity to create their own campaign – I have been impressed with the maturity 7S have displayed throughout this process. Well done to our newly elected form reps, Nikhil and Nohamin. A huge well done also to Kavsikan who has read 11 books since the start of the academic year, and to Nikhil and Piranavan who have completed 10 chapters of their first ever novel – I look forward to reading the rest! Additionally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity with the Christmas Hamper appeal – please do continue to donate, if you are able to do so.

Mr Evans - 7W Form Tutor

7 Wall are settling in really well and have been very enthusiastic about getting involved in school life. Lots of students wanted to be House Captain and submitted presentations explaining why they'd be good at the job. The standard of work was excellent for all candidates but Christian Belchez and Adelita Topi, got the role!

The quality of the summer holiday homework was also exceptional and several students got certificates for their effort. Well done to Zuzanna Kasprzyk, Inthujan Indran, Rio Joshua Monteiro, Giulia Lazar, Yousef Doughman, Gerard Doherty and Adelita Topi. We gained the most house points overall, an impressive 500 points – well done 7 Wall.

Ms Onur - 8A Form Tutor

8 Arrowsmith have been working very well as a form group. Attendance has been exceptionally good and all House Events are supported by the form as a whole. The form loves reading too and are enthusiastic to share their reading skills in class!

Mr Parker - 8C Form Tutor

8 Champion are settling in to the new term nicely, no complaints about the new timetable and embracing the year ahead.

Our time apart has had it's effects throughout the year group as we know but 8C seem to be able to take it all in their stride and adapt well to the new normal of change.

We have recently chosen our new House Captains, Gina and Kian too!"

Ms Mur - 8B Form Tutor

8 Barlow have started this first term fantastically.

In our form there are many successes to celebrate such as the involvement of so many students being part of The Douay Environmental Ambassadors.

This year they have introduced the use of new 'Bottle Bins' across the school which is an immense success.

Many good news notes have been awarded for great effort and excellent work.

Great successes in reading skills, becoming reading mentor, learning the key board in music and winning the table tennis competition.

Well done Y8 Barlow!"

Mrs Duffy & Miss Gater - 8G Form Tutor

Exciting news for 8 Gervase. At the beginning of November, we received a letter from the Headteacher, Mr Corish, to thank us for our feedback on how safe we feel with the new safety regulations and changes in our school. Mrs Duffy has displayed the letter in the classroom for all of us to see and Miss Gater photocopied the letter so we could each have our very own copy.

As asked, we have all made a contribution to the food bank by donating tins of custard and fruit for those who cannot afford to feed themselves and their families in this difficult time.

Even though there are many new changes, we have all managed to adjust and we have received, as a class, countless good news notes from multiple teachers. Currently in form we are reading *A Wrinkle in Time*, which all of us are taking part in reading out loud. Three of our form members have taken part in writing interesting segments and reviews about books to recommend to other students as well as coping with the changes to our school routine.

On behalf of 8 Gervase: Mitchell Okpalajaku, Grace Abreu, Lola Doyle and Kacey-Leigh Marshall.

Mr Sin - 8M Form Tutor

The students of 8 Mayne have been busy in this Term, learning and getting involved in lots of activities in these times. We have pupils being successful in RE classes, poetry clubs, cooking classes and learning new languages such as Arabic; gaining an Advance Level 2 certificate in swimming, sporting successes in netball/athletics and even solving the Rubik Cube. Keep it going 8 Mayne form!

Mrs Arnold - 8R Form Tutor

8 Reynolds has started the year very enthusiastically trying to get involved as much as possible in a time when there isn't much on. They've enjoyed making scones, soup and bread and a few boys competed in the inter-house table tennis competition. Lucca made us proud coming in 2nd and earning 250 house points! They continue to work hard and keep positive in the changing world around them.

Mr David - 8S Form Tutor

8 Southwell have made a superb start to the academic year. They are doing well as a class in all of their subjects and have been very responsive and 'involved' during PSHE. 8S have the incredible potential to be the tutor group with the most certificates this year and are set to make fantastic progress!!

Miss S Akhtar - 8W Form Tutor

It has been lovely to welcome back the form after such a long absence and to see how hard they have been working at adjusting to all the new challenges they are faced with. In recent weeks, we have had some excellent posters made for Black History Month (particularly excellent contributions from Chiwen Wamadi, Nicole Gogol and Varo Schwan) and the form are currently working on a notice board to celebrate the achievements of some great black writers. Dulcie Kinch is also working very hard on writing her first novel; the first 3 chapters are now complete and we cannot wait to read the rest.

'This year has certainly been an unprecedented and challenging time for us all whereby normal extracurricular science activities which would normally run weekly have been temporarily halted. But fear not! I would like to take this opportunity to announce the revolutionary return of science club.

Fortnightly we will be providing students with creative, fun and innovative practical's that can be conducted in the comfort of your own homes. A platform will be created giving the opportunity for students to share their amazing photos and videos with the Douay community. Our first practical will be exploring the properties of a Non newtonian fluid known as 'Oobleck' which can have a mind of its own'

I will be setting this every fortnight on SMHW as an optional task for students to complete but would encourage as many students to get involved as possible. If students do wish to share photos and videos which I hope to develop onto a KS3 Science Website eventually then please do email me these at

GSooriyakhantha@douaymartyrs.co.uk

Mr Sooriyakhantha - Science Department

St Catherine of Alexandria

Library News

Year 7 and 8

Firstly, a warm welcome to our new Year 7s and a welcome back to our Year 8s! The library is in full swing with our focus on Reading for Pleasure but also busy with timetabled library lessons, book loans and returns, homework completion, access to printing, Accelerated Reader tests and the sale of stationery.

In addition to their library lessons, the Year 7s and 8s are welcome to access the library on specified days and times: Year 7s are welcome Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays before school and each day during Break One. Year 8s are welcome Monday,

Wednesday and Friday during Break Two. All students are able to access the 'Book Drop' box located near the entrance of the library (to return their library books)

before and after school or during break. Library books are loaned for a two-week period and after that they may be renewed or returned without fine.

The library shelves are continuously updated with exciting and challenging reads and we are especially excited to announce a developing section in our library, highlighting the importance of Diversity and Inclusion. New titles have recently been added from authors such as: Khaled Hosseini, Oscar Wilde, Mark Haddon and Malorie Blackman, so let your imagination take you on an adventure with a visit to the library!

Miss Allen - Librarian

Bebras Competition with Year 7 and 8

Within Computer Science lessons many year 7s and 8s have been taking part in the Bebras National Problem Solving competition. This is coordinated with Oxford University, and seeks to work to test and improve pupil's problem solving skills. This is a key skill in allowing them to move forward in Computing, most particularly with programming. We will find out the results in a few weeks, and some will be invited to the next stage of the competition, whilst others will receive certificates for their scores.

Mr Mogridge - Computer Science

Key Dates for your Diary

Friday 4th December - INSET DAY -
(SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS)

Thursday 10th December -
Year 7 Virtual Parent's Evening
(SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2:00PM)

Thursday 17th December - END OF TERM
(SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12:30PM)

Monday 4th January 2021
Start of term for all students 8:35am

