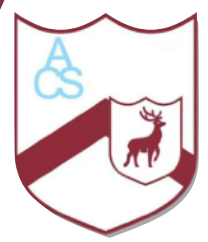


July 2024



ACS NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers

We all know how vital the strong foundations a good education provides for children are. Raising academic standards at this school and improving the opportunities your children have in the future is important to me. We made some changes during the current academic year to address concerns and ensure all students are in lessons and learning as much as possible. Having reviewed these changes and our systems and using the feedback you provided over the last year, you will have received a letter outlining our new systems for September 2024.

Thank you in advance for your support in reading and sharing this information with your child/children.

This term has seen a range of activities take place for students in and out of school which are included in our last newsletter of this academic year.

I wish you a safe summer holiday and we look forward to seeing the students in September.

Mr Orsborne

What's On

- Monday 2 September and Tuesday 3 September - INSET days
- Wednesday 4 September - Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12 in school
- Thursday 5 September - term starts for all year groups (Week A)
- Thursday 19 September - Supporting your child's mental health workshop 6.00 - 7.00pm
- Thursday 26 September - Year 11 GCSE Success Evening
- Thursday 10 October - Open Evening 5.00pm
- Tuesday 15 October and Friday 18 October - Open mornings 11.30am
- Thursday 24 October - Year 7 Meet the Tutor
- Friday 25 October - Year 11 and Year 13 Academic Review Day
- Monday 28 October - Friday 31 October - HALF TERM

Letters Home

Click [HERE](#) to find the most recent letters we have sent home to parents.

Follow our social media pages for up-to-date news and information about ACS.



Further information is also available on our website.



County Lines Talks

Drugs, Knife Crime and Gangs

Written by Laura Evans (Parent)

County Lines affects anyone regardless of someone's age, race, gender, postcode, upbringing, financial status, religion or education status.

As a parent, I have been so concerned about the increased activity in Hertfordshire that I approached Mr Osborne, asking what was being done to ensure our children were getting the correct information regarding this topic.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to school to hear these talks.

Paul Hannaford addressed Years 8 and 9.

In his workshops, Paul talks about his own personal experience of drug addiction, alcohol, knife crime, gangs, guns, gulling and life in prison. In the past ten years, he has presented to over 400,000 schoolchildren, ranging from Year 4 to Sixth Form, tailoring his talks according to the children's age.

Paul stayed on to talk to parents, so we are able to spot signs and understand how to deal with them, as well as have full and frank conversations with our own children. Unfortunately, the uptake on this was disappointing, but hopefully, the school will be able to do this again in the coming year. I urge you all to take the time to attend one of these talks. It will certainly open your eyes!

Years 7 and 10 were addressed by a company called One Chance. They partnered with a company called DBA Project (Dream, Believe, Achieve): a nationwide organisation that specialises in mentoring young people. Together, they delivered a workshop that was interactive and very informative.

Unlike Paul's which was very much about his own experiences One Chance workshop explained more about how children are targeted and encouraged into gangs and how they will be used to carry drugs and knives. They also covered what being involved in a gang will mean: the loss of your friends and family, living in dirty drug dens, unwashed and hungry.

They explained the harm social media has on our children and how they can be punished by association with anyone linked to these types of crimes.

Both talks asked for interaction between the students and teachers in a safe environment. They were hard-hitting and blunt, equipping the students with the knowledge they needed to make informed decisions. They certainly had the students' attention from start to finish.

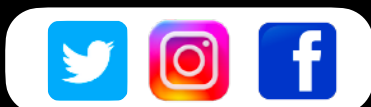
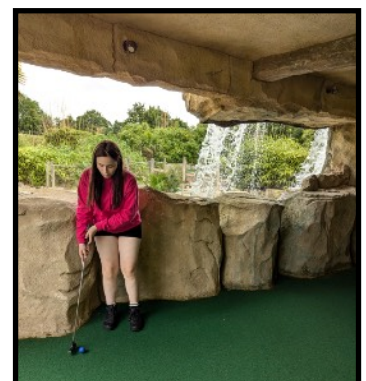


KS3 News

On July 5th, 93 Year 8s and five Year 9s attended a rewards trip to Chessington World of Adventures for having the most house points in their year groups. Despite the rainy start to the day, all the pupils had fun exploring the park and going on the rides. The Jumanji ride was by far the pupils' favourite.



All the Year 8 pupils who received 0 behaviour points this year were invited to a celebratory game of crazy golf at The Lost Jungle in Edgware. Huge congratulations to Charlie and Emily who won their games!



KS3 News

Thank you to all Year 7 students for their hard work this year. They have grown as a year group and have been successful, making excellent progress in their classes. Thank you to the parents and carers for continued support throughout the year.

The students have received rewards for positive behaviour in the assemblies. Some students were rewarded by going on a trip to Hollywood Bowling. We also had a fantastic day at Willen Lake, and the weather was very kind to us too. Also, some Year 7 students were lucky to go to Spain for a week.

I am confident that the students will continue to thrive in Year 8 and beyond. While I am sorry I will not be their Head of Year in September, I know they will be in good hands with Ms Tasher. I am sure you will continue to make us proud with your future accomplishments.

Have a lovely summer.

Mrs Goodchild



On July 17, 30 pupils with the most house points in each year group were invited to the field to celebrate their success this year with ice cream from the ice cream van. A massive congratulations to all of these pupils!



Celebrating Student Achievement: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition

We are incredibly proud of the 40 Year 9, Year 10, and Year 12 students who successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition on the 12th and 13th of July 2024. This two-day adventure tested their endurance, teamwork, and navigation skills, with each student demonstrating excellent perseverance and enthusiasm.

The expedition took the students from Aldbury, Tring, to The Astley Cooper School, with an overnight camp at Hudnall Park. Over the weekend, the students demonstrated their improved navigational skills, excellent camaraderie, and resilience, embodying the spirit of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Congratulations to all participants for their hard work and dedication. Your achievements are a testament to your commitment and determination. We eagerly look forward to seeing many more of our students signing up for the program next year, and we are confident that they will also excel in this challenging yet rewarding journey!

Well done to everyone involved!

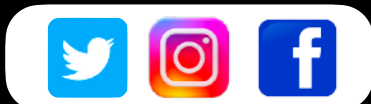


ACS House System

Parks	King	Curie	Nightingale	Hawking	Shakespeare
168,486	182,503	153,333	166,781	152,053	158,758



Follow our social media pages for up-to-date news and information about ACS.



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Food Studies

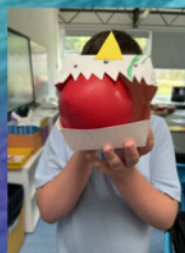
It was lovely to welcome some Year 6 students into the Food Studies department on their Transition Day. The students had great fun making “instant” ice cream which involved mixing the ingredients in a bag which was then placed in another bag containing ice and rock salt. The salt lowered the ice's temperature, meaning the milk froze in minutes. They enjoyed decorating their ice cream with fresh fruit and sweets.

Miss G Hodges



Year 6 Transition Day Design & Technology Moving Monsters

Within DT, during the Year 6 Transition day, students became part of an adventure to design and make their own moving monster with pneumatic tongues to open and close the mouths.

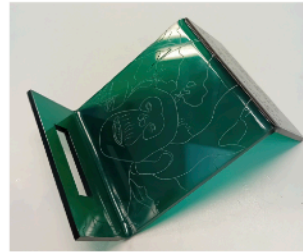
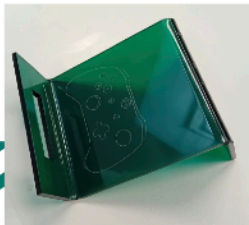


Year 6 Transition Day Moving Monsters

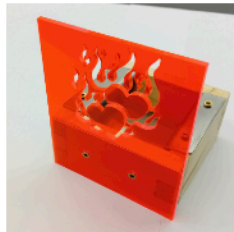
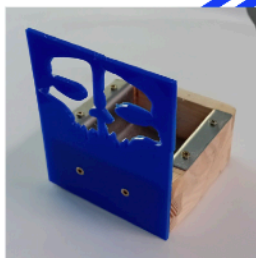




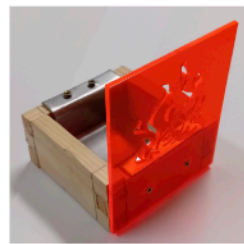
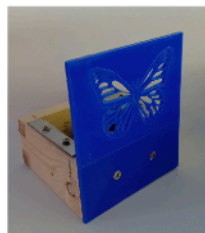
Student's Work Yr 7



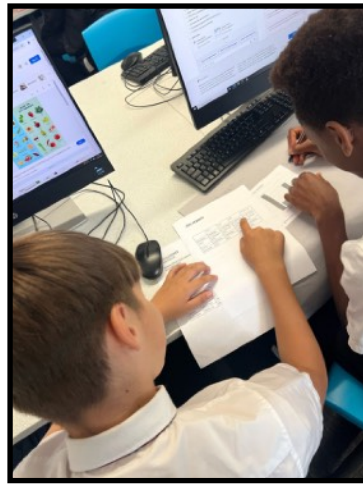
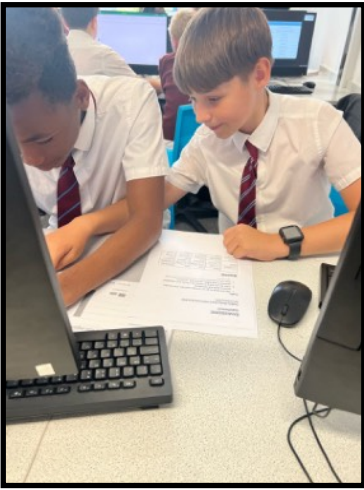
Student's Work Yr 8



Student's Work Yr 9



Maths Department



KS3 Students Shine in Group Projects

KS3 students have excelled in engaging group projects this academic year, including hypothesis testing (multiple scenarios), holiday planning, and designing a theme park with a £500,000 loan. Working in small groups, students showed remarkable enthusiasm and commitment.

These projects provided an excellent platform for students to enhance their communication and leadership skills. Additionally, they could apply their mathematical knowledge to solve practical, real-world problems. The collaborative nature of these tasks fostered teamwork and prepared students for future challenges by honing essential life skills.

The initiative has been a tremendous success, with students benefiting greatly from the hands-on learning experience. Students are grateful to Miss Oliver for planning this within the curriculum.

If you would like to have a look at the Theme Park maths project, click on the link below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DNDtsKuwoRuecaMwO3HjbiC5YMhHCJdH/view?usp=sharing>

Junior Kangaroo Challenge

Rishi C (8C) recently participated in the Junior Kangaroo Challenge, a follow-on round to the Junior Maths Challenge. This 60-minute, 25 multiple-choice question challenge tested his mathematical prowess, and he demonstrated outstanding problem-solving skills throughout the competition.

Well done, Rishi; we are proud of you and look forward to seeing your achievements.



Why don't you try some of these questions!?

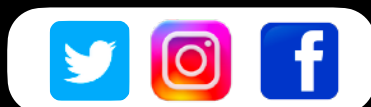
Junior Kangaroo 2024 - Questions

https://ukmt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Junior_Kangaroo_2024_Paper.pdf

Junior Kangaroo 2024 - Solutions

https://ukmt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Junior_Kangaroo_2024_Solutions.pdf

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Summer work for KS3/KS4/KS5

Message from Miss Oliver for year 7, 8 and 9 students:

Please log in to Maths pad - [click here](#) - using your login details posted on Google Classroom.

You have been assigned five tasks covering various topics you have studied this year. We expect you to complete all five tasks by September 4th, 2024.

If you have any problems, please email Miss Oliver at m.oliver@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Message for year 10 and 11 students:

Please log in to mathswatch <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/> to complete the work. Your username is your first and last name written together, followed by @astleycooper, and the password is astley.

You will receive weekly homework every Monday, and you have a two-week window to complete it. We expect that all tasks will be completed by September 4th, 2024.

If you have any problems, please email me at s.fernando@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Win a £100 Maths Gear goody bag

<https://chalkdustmagazine.com/regulars/crossnumber/prize-crossnumber-issue-19/>

GOODBYE

It has been a pleasure working with all of you this academic year, and we look forward to meeting our new students in September. We have a number of activities planned for the academic year 2024/2025, and we hope that many of you will take part in them.

Finally, we would like to say goodbye to Mr Govind, who has taught many of you in the last four years. You will agree that his sarcasm and dark humour will be missed. He has been an asset to the mathematics department, and it is sad to see him leave, but we wish him all the best in his new school. Mr Govind, you can always return to ACS if you get bored.

Have a restful summer break, and see you in September.

Miss Fernando and the Maths Team

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me over the break at s.fernando@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Relationship between Sports and Mathematics

"Moneyball" (2011)

Prior to the 2002 MLB season, Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane (Brad Pitt) takes the advice of young Yale alumnus Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), who suggests signing players based on their on-base percentages and other advanced stats called sabermetrics instead of following traditional scouting techniques. Oakland ends up having a historic season without spending money on big-name players. This is no fiction tale; it happened some 17 years ago (besides the fact that Brand's real name is Paul DePodesta), and sabermetrics have been reinventing the game ever since. Based on the 2003 book of the same name, "Moneyball" didn't win any Oscars or Golden Globes, but it did earn ten nominations between the two events.



The use of Mathematics during the World War II

"The Imitation Game" (2014)

Based on the life of Alan Turing and the biography "Alan Turing: The Enigma," "The Imitation Game" earned \$234 million at the box office, near-universal acclaim, an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay (Graham Moore) and seven additional nods. Benedict Cumberbatch portrayed Turing, a brilliant British mathematician and cryptanalyst who led a code-cracking team that aided the Allies during World War II. Although respected in retrospect and now considered the father of theoretical computer science and artificial intelligence, Turing's brilliance wasn't fully recognised during his lifetime, partly due to his prosecution for homosexuality in 1952. "The Imitation Game" co-starred Keira Knightley, who earned a Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination.



Year 10 Geography Trips

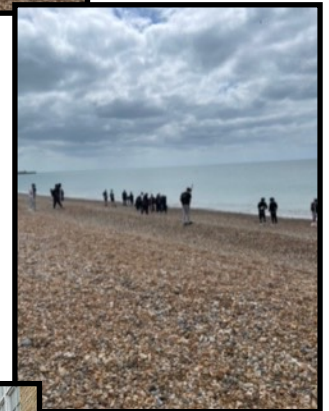
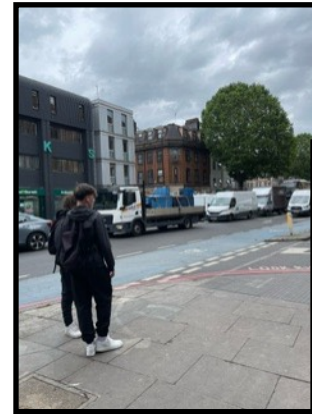
The Year 10 Geography students embarked on two enlightening days outside the school premises to complete the fieldwork elements of their GCSE course. They were taken to a coastal and urban fieldwork location to hone their geographical fieldwork skills, a crucial preparation for the GCSE exams in year 11.

On Tuesday, July 2nd, the group went to Brighton, and after a long coach journey, we made it to the beach to begin our fieldwork. We had a stretch of beach to ourselves, where each group of students had to conduct various measurements. This involved collating information to create a transect of the beach profile and demonstrating how the beach sediment varies from the shoreline to the back of the beach. It was all a good geographical experience!

On Wednesday, 2nd July, the students headed to the “Big Smoke,” particularly East London, and walked around the Aldgate East area, visiting Brick Lane and Spitalfields Market. This walking tour comprised different urban locations, ranging from a park to an old brewery site. The primary data collected here would help build up a picture of the areas' environmental quality and ethnic diversity.

On both days, each team demonstrated great teamwork, and some individuals showed strong leadership skills by organising their team members. In between being excellent geographers collecting primary data, we managed to get chips and milkshakes by the sea, a feast of different cuisines, and some shopping time in Spitalfield Market.

Well done to everyone involved.



Year 11

Dear Year 11 Parents and Students,

First, I would like to say well done for sitting your exams. You came in prepared and ready to answer all the questions. We are proud of you all and looking forward to results day on 22nd August 2024.

If you will be abroad on results day and want to have your results emailed, please let us know by emailing us through your personal email requesting your results.

deb.cansick@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk / o.tasher@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Over the last term and a half, you have all shown remarkable progress. Your commitment has been outstanding, from attending Easter revision sessions, the successful PGL GCSE Booster camp, and PEX-TI revision weekends to participating in morning and afternoon interventions. The memorable Achievement Ceremony and the Hollywood-style prom were a testament to your achievements over the past five years at ACS.

As you embark on the next chapter of your lives, whether it's Sixth Form, College, or an apprenticeship, I want to extend my heartfelt best wishes to each and every one of you. May you all find success and fulfilment in your future endeavours.

YEAR 11 PROM... A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

Class 2024 Prom happened on Thursday, June 27th, at Aubrey Park Hotel. It was a night to never forget, from the motorbike drop-off to the designer outfits and the mesmerising dance moves!

What a way to celebrate a year of hard work before the summer holidays!

Preparation for the evening started months before, with the Prom Committee deciding on the prom awards, colour scheme, and decorations. The decision to have (lots) of balloons, favours, an award-winning professional photographer, a photo booth, and a DJ proved the right choices, as it all came together to create a great party atmosphere. The dance floor was never empty; they all enjoyed the music and had a great time!

All the students arrived looking amazing – many were unrecognisable in their stunning outfits and emerged from various forms of transport. The weather could not have been more perfect, and students could mingle, chat and have a lovely relaxing time inside or outside the suite. The photo booth didn't empty all night (even the staff had a go!) and there was a constant long queue for the delicious buffet. The Year group had already voted for staff awards, and staff were delighted to receive their golden medal and certificate, alongside student trophies being awarded on the night.

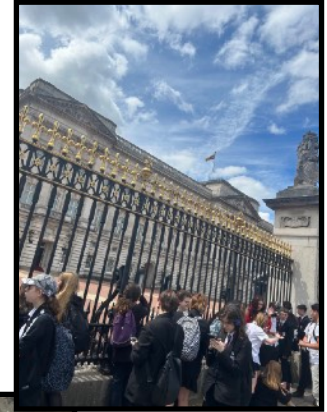
The evening couldn't have gone more smoothly and all the students made us very proud. It was a lovely way to say the final goodbyes and to celebrate the last five years of being together. I look forward to seeing the same big smiles on results day.

Ms Tasher



Performing Arts Department

On the 19th June, the Performing Arts department took 49 students to watch the spectacular musical "Wicked." The day began with a quick photo opportunity at the iconic Buckingham Palace before heading to the Apollo Victoria Theatre. 'Wicked' left everyone spellbound with its captivating story and stunning performances. The trip was a cultural delight and an excellent opportunity for our Year 10 Production Arts students to understand the musical they are currently studying better. As part of this, they have created masks for one character in 'Wicked', Doctor Dillamond.



Performing Arts Awards Evening

The third Performing Arts Awards evening was held in the Hall again this year, and we celebrated the success and progress of many of our students. It is always an honour to be able to award students for their hard work and achievements throughout the year and to see them arrive excitedly with their parents to find out precisely what award they have won.

The evening was further enriched by a variety of outstanding performances. We were treated to some exceptional dance performances by ACDC, Dance Club, Lilia and Emily and Lexie, showcasing the diversity of our students' talents. The musical talents of the Year 8 and 9 bands, Rishi, Josh and Grey, added another layer of richness to the event.

A star-studded evening full of pride, happiness and success. Well done to all who won an award!



Art Department

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on successfully completing their GCSE Art qualification. To celebrate, on Wednesday, June 26th, students and parents joined us in the school's main hall to view their fabulous artwork. All students produced considered and thought-provoking final pieces in response to themes: I, Me, Mine, and Power. There were lots of compliments from parents and staff, and we are very proud of their achievements.

The Art Department



Follow our social media pages for up-to-date news and information about ACS.



Further information is also available on our website.



PE Department

On Wednesday, 3rd July, the PE department took over 30 students to compete at Jarman Park Athletics track for District Sports Day. All students gave it their all in every event they were asked to do. There were several personal bests and even some school records which was a pleasure to see. There were also a number of medal winners. They are listed below:

Louie C	-	Silver Medal Shot Put
Kledi S	-	Silver Medal Discus
Bartosz K	-	Bronze Medal Hurdles
Lamech O	-	Bronze Medal High Jump
Emily B	-	Silver Medal Discus



Well done to everyone selected, and I look forward to next year.



On Friday, 12th July, The Astley Cooper School had its annual Sports Day. The morning involved all year groups competing in various field events, including traditional events such as javelin and shot put. We also offered a range of other activities, such as spin bike challenges, tug of war, and hitting the target. The most popular activity was 'Capture the Flag'. Students had to work in their house teams to run into the opponent's area and return to their own area with the flag without being caught.

In the afternoon, all years competed in the track events. There were lots of close and exciting races at all distances. What was so pleasing to see was that all races were supported so well by all the students and staff. There were cheers and encouragement from all regardless of which house they were competing for. This made for a positive and pleasant atmosphere. It was undoubtedly the best Sports Day for a number of years. I am already looking forward to next year's event, which will be even better! The results overall house results can be seen below:

- 1st Shakespeare
- 2nd Hawking
- 3rd Curie
- 4th Parks
- 5th King
- 6th Nightingale



Sixth Form News

Year 13

Friday, June 14, was Year 13's leavers' celebration. After an assembly celebrating their success over the last two years, students received awards from their subject teachers before finishing off the assembly with a video montage of photos from their time here at Astley Cooper. We then took the students to London to Puttshack, where they competed against each other in mini golf before we took them to Zizzi for dinner.

We would like to congratulate all of our Year 13 students and wish them the very best of luck for the future.

Year 13 Results Day is on **Thursday, August 15**. The school will be open from 9.00 a.m. to 11.00a.m. to collect your results. Staff will be on hand to help with any issues and to help you with clearing should you need it.

Year 12

I would like to congratulate Year 12 students on their hard work and commitment throughout the year.

In PSHE, students are currently working their way through the Post 18 Next Steps programme, which supports them through their university application via UCAS.

Students have also been out on Work Shadowing for three days this term, which has allowed them to gain an insight into their chosen career and give them valuable experience when applying for University courses or employment.



Y11 into 12 Sixth Form Induction

Over three days, we welcomed Year 11 students for our Sixth Form Induction. On the first day, students listened to an induction assembly and participated in a team-building exercise to solve the murder mystery case, well done to all the teams that were correct in finding the killers. The days after this, students arrived at school for their allocated subject induction lessons, where they received more information about the course and were taught the content of the first year of Year 12. It was great to see so many Year 11s back in school dressed smartly with a positive attitude for the start of their Sixth Form studies. The induction sessions were a fantastic, beneficial process for the students, and they have helped prepare them for September and ensure that students have chosen the correct subjects.

Y11 into 12 information

Transition Work and Registration

Students will receive a welcome package in September, and a code of conduct will be issued.

All students who have applied to study in the Sixth Form subject will need to ensure that they complete the transition work for each subject they wish to study and return these to school to their subject teacher in September. Teachers explained these in the last induction session and work can be found on the school website under the Sixth Form page.

If any students in Year 11 have had their situation change for next year and would like to apply to join our Sixth Form, please speak to Mrs Ollerenshaw-East on results day or email c.ollerenshaw-east@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk.

Results Day

Thursday, 22 August, is GCSE results day; staff will be around to help students with their results. All students who applied for the sixth form must meet with a member of the Sixth Form team on the day before they leave.

Year 12 will then be required to be in school on Wednesday, September 4. Students should meet in the Sixth Form area. Please be on time and in the correct dress code. Lessons for all Sixth Form students will start on Thursday, September 5.

**Year 13 students can collect their timetables from 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4, ready for starting lessons on Thursday, September 5.*

Our Sixth Form is continuing to grow, and I am excited to welcome nearly 70 students in Year 12 in September.

Mrs Ollerenshaw-East
Head of Sixth Form

Miss Smith
Head of Year 13

Miss Hunt
Head of Year 12

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers,

I would like to introduce myself to you; I am Ms Tasher, your child's Head of Year as of September 2024.

I am a teaching Head of Year with many years of experience in the classroom and as a pastoral leader. I am looking forward to working with your child to achieve the very best and to make sure they excel both in the classroom as well as as a young person by focussing on responsibility for their own actions, respecting everyone within our school and community and being resilient by adapting to challenging situations and overcoming them with success.

I wish you all a restful summer break and look forward to seeing our Year 8 students in full school uniform on Thursday 5th September.