

TEAM MINSTHORPE

SUMMER TERM 2023 - EDITION 10

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Minsthorpe Community College | Motivation ♦ Commitment ♦ Care



WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPALS

Welcome to our final edition of this year's Newsletter. It has been another year to remember and as you read on, you will see the amazing opportunities that our students have been involved in. We have had multiple parents' evenings with fantastic turnouts, our always amazing extra-curricular programme which has seen record numbers in attendance both before and after College, external visitors to the College who have commented on the great things we do at Minsthorpe and many many more things that we never take for granted.

Our Y11 and Post 16 students have completed

their exams and we heard some very positive conversations as students left the exam room. This is down to the dedication and hard work that both students and staff have put in to prepare for this important time. They celebrated in style at their Prom this month and we now look forward to seeing students and parents on the results days to celebrate with you.

We are thrilled with the commitment that our Year 7 students have shown with Knowledge Organisers this year. Throughout the year we have seen students taking up the challenge and really succeeding in our aim

that they know more and remember more of the key knowledge that will support them in the future.

Year 10 have also had a busy month. They showed great maturity in their recent mock exams and we know this will stand them in good stead for next year when they begin the final push towards the GCSE exams next summer. They have also started to look even further forward and many took part in the Post 16 taster days where they spent a day as a Post 16 student. They looked very grown up!

It would not be right if we didn't mention the incredible Sports Day we had this year



too. We always say it is the best day of the year and it did not disappoint. Whilst we are talking about sports, we are excited to let you know that the building works for our new sports complex will begin in August. It will replace the old gym on the front of College and will be a state of the art, carbon neutral building that will move our sports facilities to a whole new level.

We are expecting the new

building to be ready for the start of the September 2024 which is exciting news for all our students and the community as well. As we were selected as one of the first 50 schools in the country to be part of the DfE's 'Schools Rebuilding Programme' there will be a number of other areas of the College that will be regenerated over the next two years also. We are really happy that at the end of the works we will have a College

that is fit for the future generations of Minsthorpe students.

We hope you all have a great summer with family and friends and we are already eager to welcome you all back in September.

M. Gilmore F. A. Merritt

Mr Gilmore Mrs Merritt
Joint Principals

YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL 2023

What a trip! The students had an amazing time and, conducted themselves very well. We played many team games with Orange Team taking an early lead, but Green Team making a swift come back. Over the four nights the students took part in races, blindfolded challenges, relays and tug of war (in which the staff even battled it out to gain the final few points for their teams). We had pizza for dinner followed by football, a trip to see the sheep and even had a visit from the white widow herself after playing capture the flag in the woods. I believe their screams could be heard across the whole of Penistone, and that was just the teachers! Back to the accommodation and the teams competed in a quiz and various challenges along with the infamous egg drop! It appears the students were trying to make scrambled egg!

The evening ended, with

everyone round the campfire sharing stories and toasting marshmallows. After a few hours of shut eye, a bacon sarnie and change of clothes we were raring to go again. We arrived at the activity centre and went out on the lakes. The students then completed archery, rock climbing and the epic leap of faith. We are really proud of how some students really pushed themselves out of their comfort zone and attempted all the activities. Back on the bus for yet another mass sing song, staff included. Mr Mann had a key part to play in our tune of the week, Barbie Girl, which we sang as loud as we possibly could upon returning to school each day. That concludes what was yet again, another fantastic Year 7 Residential. Bring on next year!





CLASS OF 23 - PROM

Year 11 of 2023 celebrated in style on July 6th at their prom. The students not only looked stunning, but their behaviour and conduct matched their appearance. They had a fabulous evening and made us feel very proud. We look forward to seeing them again and celebrating their achievements on results day (Thursday 24th August).



KS3 RESOURCE PROVISION

The students in the KS3 Resource Provision have been learning about life cycles in Science this term. They have observed the full cycle growing caterpillars into butterflies, observing the metamorphosis stage. They then released the butterflies into the wild this week which was very exciting. What a lovely end to the year.



MINSTHORPE HOST BCS

Earlier this term we were the base/host for a British Cycle Sport (BCS) 200km road race event, the longest single day race in the UK this year!! We had many different professional and Semi professional riding teams on site using the facilities and the car park as a starting point for the race. It looked great with all the sponsored vans, medical motorbikes etc.

The race was planned for 20 x 10km laps mainly using the South Elmsall/Hemsworth/Upton bypass. Unfortunately the race was stopped after just 3 laps due to an accident and the bypass being closed by the police. Thankfully there no serious injuries.

The event organisers were very happy with the venue and will return on Saturday 9th September for a race with over 160 riders!!



PRIMARY SPORTS DAY



Minsthorpe organised and hosted the Primary Sports Day for 8 local Primary Schools on Friday 23rd June. The day was a huge success as 742 Primary Children took part in eight relay races, Tug "O" War, singing and dancing along with the DJ. All of the children involved, demonstrated excellent Motivation, Commitment and Care. None more so than the 15 Year 9 leaders who led on the day, they were all outstanding from start to finish and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They certainly did our College proud.



WELL DONE, LUCIE.

Congratulations to Lucie for her well earned student of the term award at Castleford College. Lucie has worked exceptionally hard on her Level 2 Health and Social Care Early College Transfer Course and deserves all the praise she has rightly received from tutors, mentors and other staff. We wish her well and continued successes as she enters into Post 16 and beyond. Well done, Lucie!!

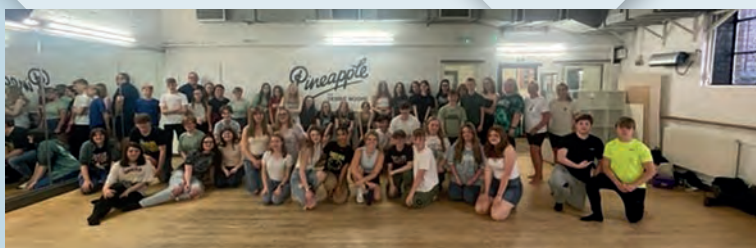


BACK TO THE FUTURE FOR KS4

Year 9 and 10 students took an electrifying ride back in time with London Olivier award winning best new musical BACK TO THE FUTURE.

The KS4 creative arts students experienced a day of culture and diversity in London. The experience gave opportunity for some free time shopping in Covent Garden, a dance workshop at Pineapple Studios and the matinee performance of the new Back to the Future Musical.

An early start, saw the nonstop day filled with new experiences, laughter, and an unforgettable show. The students were, as always, well behaved and engaged in all aspects of the day.



FOREST SCHOOL



Throughout the year, irrespective of the weather, a number of our students take part in off-site activities with OAK Forest Schools based in Howell Wood. The students learn new, lifelong, practical skills and reinforce positive team building skills. Anyone using the wood should be aware that its upkeep and maintenance, including fence repair, path clearance, removal of fallen branches etc is in part undertaken by students from Minsthorpe Community College working with Melv Mills and his dedicated team.





SPORTS DAY 2023





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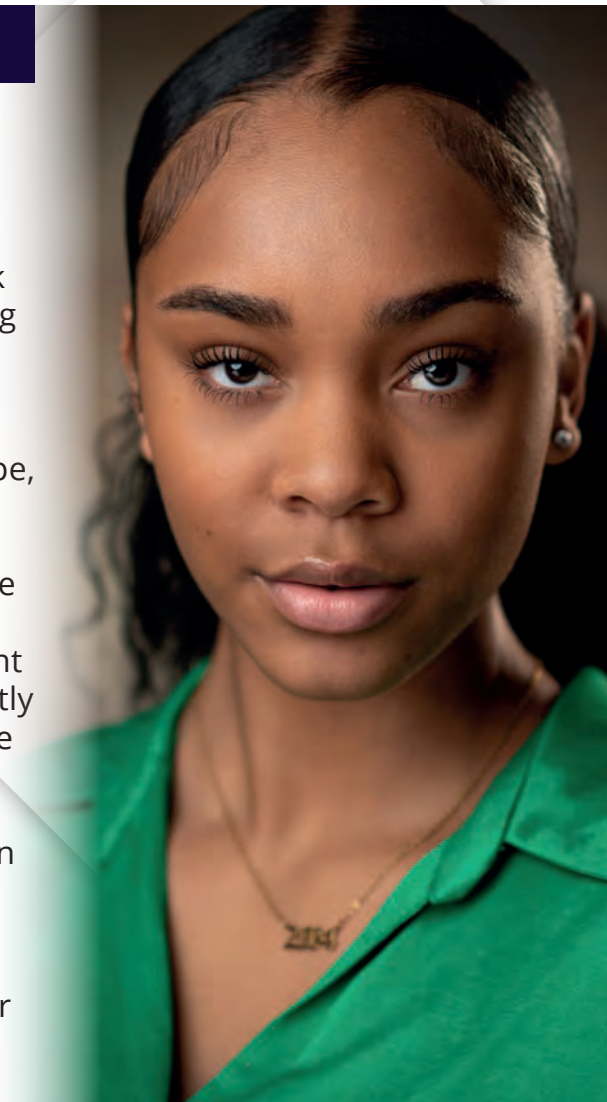
SUCCESS FOR ANNA

Anna left Minsthorpe in 2021 and has been studying Musical Theatre at CAPA College for the past two years, where she has had the time of my life. Her ambition is to perform on the West End in London and this year she has been traveling around the UK auditioning for higher education schools to further study Musical Theatre. We are delighted to hear that she has been successful in being offered a place at Andrew Lloyd Webbers Arts Educational School in London on the 3-year BA Hons degree course. This is a dream come true for Anna!

Anna contacted Mrs Baxter, her Drama teacher at Minsthorpe, to let her know the good news. Anna thanks Mrs Baxter for the vital part

Minsthorpe played in her journey as a performer. Anna said, 'Mrs Baxter saw the potential in me from day one and I cannot thank her enough for the teaching she provided me and how she continued to push me to get involved in the performances at Minsthorpe, especially 'One Night At The Movies' where I played Maleficent! Even though I've always loved performing since being a child, the night I played Maleficent I honestly remember coming off stage and wanting to go straight back on and do it all over again, there I knew I'd fallen in love with the stage.'

We love to hear about the success of our former students. Please share your stories with us.



OLIVIA

In May, students from Year 7, 8 and 9 took audiences back to Victorian England when they performed in Minsthorpe's production of 'Olivia! The talented cast spent months working on the show that consisted of fantastic acting and singing performances! We also had years 7-10 working backstage to ensure the performance ran professionally! A huge well done to all involved.



BARCELONA



The Year 8 boys had a fantastic trip to Barcelona over the Easter holidays. Whilst there, they toured three La Liga football stadiums- F.C. Barcelona, R.C.D. Espanyol and Girona F.C. They also watched a local, La Liga derby between Girona F.C and R.C.D. Espanyol. They had the opportunity to play two different football games against local Spanish football teams. There was time for some site seeing too! A trip to La Rambla and a walk down the beach, which was completed with a frisbee tournament. All the boys were fantastic throughout the trip and had a wonderful time.



SUMMER CONCERT



The Music Department summer concert showcased excellent musical talent from a range of performances across all year groups. The show ended with a big finale from staff, students past and present singing 'You will be Found' from the musical Dear Evan Hansen, to celebrate 10 years of Dean Jones' contribution to the Music Department as he leaves us this term. It has been a privilege to have worked alongside Dean and he will be missed!

SCIENCE MUSEUM VISIT

The students from the KS3 Resource Provision visited a Science museum last term to consolidate their learning in Biology about the human body. They enjoyed learning about different aspects of the digestive system, organs and the interactive exhibits at the museum. Their behaviour was exceptional throughout and they demonstrated our core values of motivation, commitment and care.



WIMBLEDON FOR YEAR 7



A group of Year 7's set off early on an adventure to Wimbledon. On arrival the students were taken to Court 1 to watch the world number 1 tennis player win his opening game of the tournament. The students also got to experience all the sights and sounds of Wimbledon when walking round all of the other courts. We all then headed back to court 1 to watch a further two matches. The students then took part in a few quizzes back at the accommodation before bed. The next day we all set off back home, stopping for two games of bowling on the way. All students were excellent and had a lovely time.



SPORTS DAY WITH A DIFFERENCE

Key Stage 4 students enjoyed a morning of go-karting as a reward for their efforts in the recent GCSE English examinations. Who needs to go all the way to Silverstone?



LEGO AND STEM COMBINE

The Science department were able to secure funding to buy specialised Lego STEM equipment. This equipment has already been a massive hit with the robotics club and our Year 9 separate scientists. We have big plans for these resources, as we hope to enter the First Lego League next year. This is a world-wide STEM competition which challenges pupils to apply their STEM skills, combined with critical thinking and team building skills to design, and build a robot. They will then compete in an exciting, mission-based robotics game. Watch this space!





POST 16 ART

Please take a look at some fantastic examples of A level Art completed by this year's cohort. Work includes, drawing painting and digital art. All these amazingly talented students are going onto pursue Art & Design at University.



UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE



We are thrilled to announce the outstanding performance of 60 students in Year 7 and 8 students in the recent UKMT maths challenge this year. This year, our students have demonstrated exceptional maths skills and achieved results that surpassed our previous records.

The UKMT maths challenge is renowned for its rigorous assessment of mathematical abilities and problem-solving skills and the students rose to the challenge admirably. Their commitment and hard work have paid off, resulting in an exceptional level of achievement.

Well done to Jackson Tate who received the best score in year 7 and Kacper Raniszewski with the best score in the school and has qualified to take part in the next round!

RUGBY LEAGUE CARES



This summer term we have had Rugby League Cares come into school to run some mental health workshops with our full Year 9 cohort. First up was the boys, they have now completed their sessions and it was fantastic to see the students fully engage. These sessions have focused on raising awareness and sharing valuable knowledge and skills of how to manage mental health. We now look forward to the Year 9 girls taking part in these sessions over the remainder of this half term.



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS SUCCESS

Year 7 continue to embrace Knowledge Organisers and are progressing well in Knowledge Assessments. In the last Knowledge Assessment on Wednesday 7th June, Year 7 improved their average score to 59.3%. This is an amazing achievement and we are very proud of the students for continually showing their commitment to their Home Learning. Year 7 have been rewarded with a range of certificates and vouchers and we hope you will all join us in congratulating the year group in their fantastic start to Minsthorpe journey.



YEAR 9 VISIT LONDON



In June the Year 9 GCSE RE group travelled to London to visit the East London Mosque & St Paul's Cathedral and as always the students were a credit to the College. Students really enjoyed the experience of visiting both places of worship, even though between the gift shop and the services they returned home with very little money!



KS3 SCIENCE SUCCESS



This half term the science team have been celebrating the efforts of the students in Years 7 and 8. Each science teacher was asked to nominate five students from their groups who have consistently performed and behaved well throughout the year. The pupils were then invited to attend a sweets and cinema event in which they were all well behaved (as you would expect). Well done Year 7 and 8 on a successful year in science.



P16 POWER THROUGH



Our Y13 chemistry students doing some final revision before their last exam. All those hours of revision, flash cards and testing each other will pay off!



THE ARMITAGE PROGRAMME

This term we welcomed our first Armitage Programme session here at Minsthorpe Community College, the session was run by 3 Junior Doctors from the University of Leeds. Our first session was just an introduction to what the programme is and what activities, tasks and problems we will encounter over the next 5 sessions. Towards the end of the first discussion students were working through a task where

they had to compare different X-rays to see if they could spot which one would need to seek further medical advice (for a bonus point they all tried to name which medical problem this could be). Overall the first session went really well, with all our students actively engaging in the activities, asking excellent questions and making the junior doctors feel welcome. All students were a credit to the school.



BASTILLE DAY FUN

On Friday 14th July, 62 Year 8 Aspire students and 17 Year 10 GCSE French students enjoyed an afternoon of raising aspirations and Bastille Day fun. Students enjoyed a Boules competition, a French general knowledge quiz and a Budget Busters 'preparing for university' game. Lots of prizes were given out and students enjoyed the sweets, treats and drinks.

