TEAM MINSTHORPE

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SUMMER TERM

Welcome to the first edition of our termly newsletter!

What an amazing term it has been! In assemblies, at staff meetings and parents' evenings during our first term as Joint Principals, we have shared the important message that everyone plays their part in making Minsthorpe Community College a great place to learn. As you look through the fantastic photos and read the articles in this newsletter, we are sure that you will see this teamwork in action. The curriculum at Minsthorpe is so much more than the learning that happens in classrooms every day. It is also about the rich opportunities enjoyed by students beyond this. We would like to thank the staff who are absolutely committed to organising these experiences for the students and the parents for supporting their children in participating in them.

In meetings with students, staff and parents we have listened to everyone's views about how we can improve our already good College. From these conversations, we have formulated a new vision for the College.

Minsthorpe **C**ommunity **C**ollege: A place where everyone plays their part in strengthening our learning community through motivation, commitment and care.

We will return to this with everyone in the new term.

Summer Holidays

Minsthorpe continues to be busy over the summer. Year 10 students will go on the water sports visit to France and the Post 16 Football Academy will be in training. Building work will start on the Maths block and also in our new 'Hub' for our associate staff teams. (We look forward to welcoming you in our new College Reception in September.)

Key dates include:

Thursday 15th August	8.30am – 11.30am	A level results	Post 16 café
Thursday 22nd August	from 8.30am	Year 11 GCSE results	Post 16 café
Thursday 22nd August	from 11am	Year 10 GCSE results	Post 16 café
Thursday 29th August	8.30am – 2.30pm	Year 12 enrolment	Post 16 café

Minsthorpe Community College, Minsthorpe Lane, South Elmsall, West Yorkshire WF9 2UJ
email: enquiries@minsthorpe.cc Phone: 01977 657600

Back to College
The Autumn Term starts for students on Wednesday 4th September 2019.

Year 7 arrive at 8.25am.
Years 8 – 11 arrive at Snack Break 1. (Please do not arrive on site until 10.25am.)

As always, students will spend the morning in P&A time and assemblies. Normal lessons will begin in the afternoon.

The high expectations required from all our students remain unchanged:
• To demonstrate the 6Rs and **'Learn the Minsthorpe Way'**
• To follow the Code of Conduct and **'Behave the Minsthorpe Way'**

We know that students learn best in classrooms, which are calm, safe and orderly. It is unacceptable for a student to stop others from learning. We will be revisiting our high expectations with students in assemblies and ask that parents follow this link and discuss the presentation with their child. *https://minsthorpe.cc/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/w-c-8-July-2019-assemblies-September-Ready.pdf*

We are expecting students to show a greater commitment to their learning by bringing the correct equipment every day. Everyone needs a bag, their Student Planner a pen, a pencil, a ruler, a scientific calculator and a reading book.

Our uniform expectations remain unchanged. We are able to lend forgotten items and students refusing to wear correct uniform will not be allowed into mainstream lessons. We look forward to welcoming the new Year 7 in their royal blue ties. Each year group now have their own distinct colour. *https://minsthorpe.cc/school-uniform/*

From September, each year group will have designated outdoor areas at snack break 2. This is to ensure that everyone can 'Be Safe, Feel Safe' around the site. The AstroTurf, tennis courts, Library Learning Centre and Main Hall will continue to be shared by all year groups.

On a final note, our drive to improve whole College attendance remains a priority for us. Simply put: students need to be in College to learn and make progress. We thank you for working with us to ensure that your child receives the best education possible at Minsthorpe Community College.

Thank you for a great first term! Have a good summer!

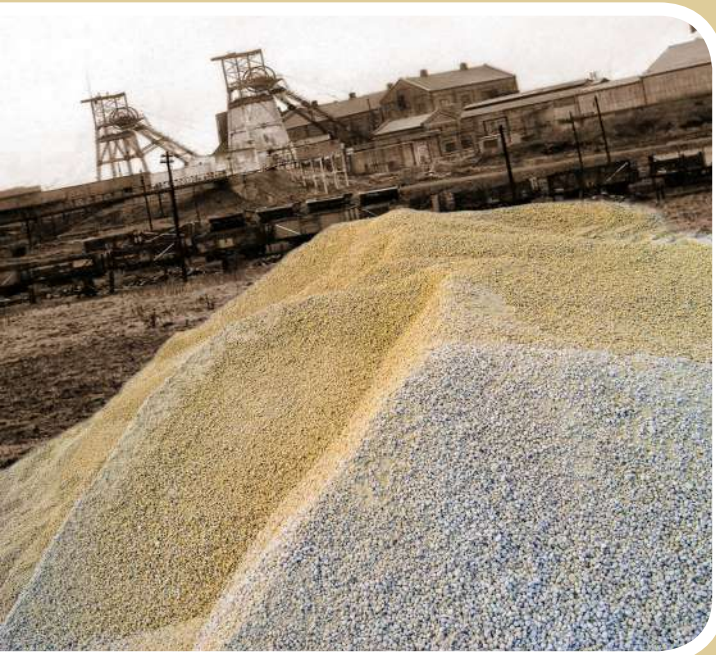
Mr Gilmore and Mrs Merritt



Wakefield College Tournament Winners – Girls Rugby Team



A great afternoon of rugby spent between Minsthorpe and Crofton academy girls rugby teams with some exciting open play rugby on show. The talent within both Minsthorpe and Crofton Academy girls was evident. However, Minsthorpe finished on top beating Crofton 44-10 in a tough final to be crowned this year's champions. A big thank you to Wakefield College and Wakefield Trinity Community Trust for hosting the event.





Changing Landscapes

Year 12 Photography students are currently working alongside Yorkshire Builders Federation and WDHC on a project called ‘CHANGING LANDSCAPES’ which has a particular focus on pictorially investigating the local building/construction landscape and the wider impact historically and currently. Students are now producing some photographs to highlight the regeneration of the SESKU area.

Young Writers

Minsthorpe Community College is proud to announce that 13 of its Year 7 students’ creative writing has been selected for Young Writers’ latest short story anthology. Alfie Lawton, Amber Wincer, Ellie Newcombe, Ellie-May McArthur, Jordan Sharman, Abigail Thompson, Lucie Fletcher, Natek Litvin, Oliver Shannon, Leeland Nash, Thomas Whiteley, Lexi Madin O’Brien and Lewis Emmerson all created short stories based on the theme of ‘Contamination’. The stories will be published in an anthology alongside other competition winners from the whole of Great Britain. This great news comes only one month after Jason Berry (Year 7) also achieved a place in Young Writers’ converted poetry anthology. Jason’s poem was one of around 300 poems selected for the anthology beating over 8000 other entries to publication. It clear that Year 7 are extraordinarily talented writers and we would like to thank them for their diligent effort and celebrate their exciting achievement.



Fold Em Feed Em

Year 12 Pre-Apprenticeship Group are working with Engie in setting up a project to benefit the community with a donation service called Fold 'Em and Feed 'Em based around the old Science Forensic Hut. Their plan is to set up a uniform donation service which will then allow the students to start with their long term plan of running a weekly foodbank for referrals from the community. Over the next few weeks they will be renovating the Portakabin in conjunction with Wickes and Volunteer It Yourself as well as collecting uniform donations. The students are gaining a large amount of employability skills from the project.







Barcelona 2019

The Year 8 football team travelled to Barcelona over the Easter period. This was an action packed, trip of a lifetime. They played two very good Spanish teams, in semi-professional stadiums that contained dug outs, scoreboards, sprinklers to water the pitch and came out onto the pitch to the sound of the Barcelona Football Anthem playing out of the speakers. The group had two tours around La Liga grounds seeing the changing rooms, going on pitch side, the press rooms and the warm up areas, the trophy rooms for both Barcelona and Espanyol. The students spent time on site in the swimming pool, playing table tennis and playing snooker. They went on the beach and had a quality Frisbee tournament. They had a ten pin bowling tournament, a crazy golf tournament and our own 4 a side football tournament. The boys had the opportunity to barter with the local shop keepers when buying presents for their friends and family. The icing on the cake however was watching Barcelona play Real Sociad in the Nou Camp, with 90,000 spectators.







SPORTS DAY!


















































Minsthorpe Young Fire Fighters Pass Out Parade

Many students started out but only five made it to the end of their 23 week Level 2 BTec Certificate in Fire Safety in the Community at Castleford Fire Station. The Post 16 group have been put through their paces in a range of practical scenarios which develop essential life skills such as team work, communication skills and resilience. All the students have really thrived by learning in a different setting and the programme has also helped them to focus more on their return to the school environment.
The young students demonstrated their achievements in their Pass



Out Parade on the 12th April 2019, presenting to their family members what they had learned. The group performed a complex drill sequence in a mock up situation where they rescued “casualties”, from different scenarios. To close the session Chief Fire Office John Roberts presented each person with a certificate of achievement. Well done to them all.

Netball Visit

During May half term 14 students went to watch some top quality, super league netball in Manchester. The match was between Manchester Thunder and Team Bath. The game was very close and saw Team Bath hold on to their top 4 position in the super league, meaning they do not face relegation. Manchester Thunder had the home advantage but were defeated. The atmosphere was electric and the girls thoroughly enjoyed watching some of their heroes at work and picked up some great tips and tricks to use in their games.





Music Concert

Another fantastic music concert to show case the amazing musical talent we have. From vocal group, soul band, and soloists from Year 8 to Year 13 who wowed us with some of the best performances we have had. A jam packed audience supported and witnessed how proud we are of our students

Athletics Champs



Athletics is now well underway and we have had some early successes to report. Katie Stringer became the Year 9 1500m champion during her first competition, she ran an outstanding race. Charley Glennon ran in the 800m and finished in 2nd place putting her in an excellent position to be selected, again, for the Wakefield schools team alongside Katie.





Year 8 Shine Visit

During the day, the students participated in a number of varied activities, which involved researching university courses and finding out about UCAS and student finance. They also attended a Psychology 'taster lecture', in one of the lecture theatres and had a guided tour of the £30 million Television & Media Centre, along with a visit to the York Law School, where students were able to visit their mock courtroom.



Yorkshire Sculpture Park Project

Our art teachers have been working with a very talented group of Year 10 and Year 12 students in collaboration with Yorkshire Sculpture Park and funding has been provided by Yorkshire Sculpture International. Students have been working with Sculpture Artist Alice Withers since January and have produced a sculpture that was exhibited in an Art walk on the 29th May in Wakefield Cathedral. We are also having a YSP curator bringing a Sculpture into school for the day on the 16th July which all students will be allowed to access.



Year 7 Residential

During May half term 96 year 7 students experienced the action packed 24 hour Year 7 residential. The students had to find their way blind folded through a wood. They did tug of war, Frisbee game, relays. Capture the flag down the woods controlled by the spirit of 'the white widow'. They had a treasure hunt. an egg challenge and a camp fire. The students were also told the story of the many 'murders' that happened at the place where we stopped and went to the outside church in the woods to pay our respects at around 1am in the morning. Next day the students enjoyed the morning in boats on the water and the afternoon climbing and the leap of faith. Well done to all the students that attended and thank you to the staff who gave up their time in their holidays to enable this to happen.





History Visit to Paris

In the Spring-bank half term holidays A Level History students Millie Andrews and Abbie Stringer visited key locations in Paris that are significant to their studies on 'Revolutionary France 1774 – 1815'. They managed to pack loads into the two days including the lavish Palace of Versailles, the home of Louis XVI before the Parisian mobs ousted him and his wife Marie Antoinette. They also saw the beginnings of the restoration project to Notre Dame (where Napoleon was crowned Emperor in 1804), along with the Louvre Museum which houses many of his art acquisitions, seized from Italy and Egypt during his military campaigns. The views from the top of Arc de Triomphe were magnificent. The tour of Paris finished with a little chill on the grass of the Champ de Mars whilst admiring the most famous landmark of them all – the Eiffel Tower. The students thoroughly enjoyed their experiences and were a credit to themselves, their families and the college.



Hornsea Geography Fieldtrips

The day consisted of completing 2 pieces of Geography fieldwork which will help Year 10 with the completion of their Paper 3 GCSE exam, Geographical Applications. Students braved the weather and conducted themselves very well throughout the day and most treated themselves to a seaside snack along the way.



Huddersfield University Music Trip

Students were a credit to Minsthorpe and gained valuable experience of a day at university and music courses available and engaged with some excellent workshops at degree level.



Soul Band

Our talented Soul Band was be featured in the new series 'Learner Voice Live' which premiered on Leeds TV.



Sugar Kanes School of Dance Poland Event

Minsthorpe students took part in the International dance competition where they represented Yorkshire & UK. There were just short of 300 teams from various other countries including Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Germany, Slovakia and many more. Sugar Kanes took 3 teams to Poland and their dance was choreographed by ex Minsthorpe student, Saffron Broad and the Infants and Juniors made it into the finals. The Junior team was selected to perform for the Concert live on Polish television on an absolutely remarkable stage, Imagine the summertime ball or Robbie Williams concert stage and you are not far off…. (They felt like real superstars). The Juniors were awarded 2nd place and were over the moon. All of the dancers performed remarkably well and did our country proud.

Thank you to Minsthorpe staff and students who contributed to fund raising for the event.



The Big Deal – STEM Project

Our 3 Year 9 contestants working hard in preparation for their presentation in the final of The Big Deal competition



Book Club

Meet the Minsthorpe Book Buzz Club. Every member has loved reading the newest Carnegie shortlist and these incredible books have sparked some great conversations. We are now looking forward to our trip to Shakespeare's Rose Theatre at York, to watch 'The Tempest', to celebrate the end of another successful and very enjoyable year. We look forward to seeing old and new faces in September 2019!



Paris Trip

At the start of the May half term holiday the French department took a group of 38 Y9 GCSE French students to Paris where they stayed at the Chateau de Grande Romaine, a PGL activity centre on the outskirts of the city. The students were impeccably behaved and a credit to the college. The group spent a full day in Paris seeing the sights and a full day in Disneyland. Two A-level History students accompanied us and along with Miss Hitchins they visited the Chateau de Versailles and walked around Paris seeing sights linked to the French Revolution. A great time was had by all.





Beauty and the Beast

Beauty and the Beast was performed in April 2019, here at Minsthorpe. Students from years 7-13 took part in the musical and were amazing from the first auditions, right up to the final show, 5 months later.

The cast and crew of Beauty and the Beast were so committed and passionate, some rehearsing 3 times a week with weekend rehearsals in addition to this. We are so proud of everyone involved and can't thank students enough for their hard work. What a talented bunch!



Wakefield Primary Sports Day



Our annual Wakefield Primary Sports Day was held at Thornes Park on Friday 28th June. There were 20 Primary schools from across Wakefield that attended making it a superb day. Minsthorpe provided all the leaders for the event. 39 Year 9 students represented our College on the day by; manning stations, organising equipment, working with younger students and Primary staff so the day could run smoothly and be a huge success.

The Y9 girls were an absolute credit to our college with several Primary School Teachers approaching me to say how fantastic they had been. Once again our students have made us proud and reiterated what an amazing place Minsthorpe Community College is. Well Done Girls.





STEM Club

This year a successful STEM club has been established. Students have investigated formulating moisturisers, slime, bath bombs and gloop, engineered bridges, towers, lifts and cable cars. KS3 students have taken part in engineering activities with Shell Engineers, making, optimising then racing cars. We were also fortunate enough to have experienced the engineering skills from the RAF STEM team. KS4 students have attend the Universities of Leeds, York and Huddersfield touring the departments of Engineering, Medicine, Maths and Applied Science. They also tested substances in an analytical chemistry laboratory as well as undertaking field research at the National Coal Mining Museum. 180 year 9 students participated in robot wars in the science department. KS5 students have attended Universities to discover career pathways available through STEM as well as undertaking an organic chemistry practical workshop to enhance their technical skills.

One of Our Own

Congratulations to one of our past students Kieran Phillips who has just announced his first professional contract with Everton Football Club. We are all very proud!





RE Trip to London

We took 36 Y9 students to visit St Paul's Cathedral and the East London Mosque. As always the students did us proud, they were well behaved and enjoyed the day exploring both places of worship as well as 'MC Bigland' on the mic giving them a tour of some of the London sites!

PROM 2019













