



MURRAY PARK NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8 – CHRISTMAS 2016

Message from our Headteacher

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Did You Know?

School breaks up on
Friday 16th December
at 2pm

Spring term begins on
Wednesday 4th January
2017 at 8:35am

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our Christmas newsletter. We are in the midst of our Christmas celebrations and activities as we round off an excellent year for the school.

I had the pleasure of attending our annual Christmas concert last Thursday and was particularly struck by the fantastic musical talent on display. Congratulations to all of the students who gave their time in rehearsal for this and to so many of you for coming along and supporting an excellent event that raised the curtain on our Christmas celebrations. Thanks to all of the staff who were involved in this event but particularly to Miss Shipman who worked so hard to make the event a success.

I believe that part of school life is about developing respect and awareness of others around you and I'm often struck by the ways, however small, that our students do this. Most recently our students took a real lead in our remembrance activities for those who have lost their lives in the two world wars. The silence was impeccably observed and students learned about the subject in a number of activities and produced some fantastic display work in Art and Design that is on display in Reception. Moreover our students donated a lot of money to support the poppy appeal during the lead up to the 11th November. As ever, I have been proud of the great empathy that your children have shown.

As you will read in this newsletter we continue to be proud of the opportunities that we offer our students to work with industry and business and are very proud that we have now been selected as a partner school for Toyota. This will give rise to a number of very exciting opportunities that your child will be likely to benefit from in the New Year.

I have recently been concerned about the safety of students coming and leaving school due to the traffic in the area near the school entrance. If you are driving your child to school please can you drop your child on or near Brisbane Road and not come right up to the school gates. The volume of traffic that is turning around in the junction area is creating a serious risk to students' safety. Also if your child is cycling to school please can you ensure that they are wearing a helmet. If we feel that children are not acting safely whilst cycling we will stop them from cycling to school.

We finish our school term at 2pm on Friday 16th December and start again at 8:35am on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr M Owen
Headteacher

PE Update

Hours of practice have been spent by our Year 10 Table Tennis teams this year and the work is starting to come to fruition. The first stage of City Championships was easy work for all 8 players, with both teams going unbeaten throughout.

Representing the City at the County Championships in Chesterfield was a new experience for many of the players and even though they were playing against nationally ranked players, they still came home with a bronze medal.

They impressed so much that the boys were asked to represent Derby County in the regional finals. Playing teams from across the Midlands, they did superbly, only missing out on the final by two crucial points. All 9 players involved should be very proud of their efforts and the school thanks them all for taking on the challenge to take on the best players in the country.

Year 7 Times Table Rock Stars Competition

Year 7 forms are currently battling it out to prove which form is the best, and by best we mean best at their times tables! Making use of the www.ttrockstars.com website Year 7 are nearly half way through their competition. 7FOL have made a mightily impressive start to the competition annihilating all in their way.

Will the other forms be able to stop them? Here is the current league table:

Name/Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Against	G.D.	Points
7FOL	2	2	0	0	7885	36827	42031	6
7SHA	2	2	0	0	6040	382	22110	6
7HCA	1	1	0	0	3486	14771	20094	3
7CR	2	1	1	0	3022	4733	-1710	3
7HCU	2	0	2	0	3930	47651	-8343	0
7TH	1	0	1	0	2056	424	-219	0
7PL	2	0	2	0	2771	64568	-368	0

Things will be getting more interesting in the New Year with the introduction of some special rounds. These rounds are sure to change the entire shape of the competition and include; Double points round, Average score week and Lowest 10 week.

The Year 7 pupils have put in a terrific effort in the battles so far and we look forward to declaring which is officially the 'best' form in Year 7 at the end of the competition. These heroic victors will then receive a special praise breakfast buffet to honour their dedication and sacrifice. Keep battling Year 7 and good luck!

Employability at Murray Park

Toyota Industrial Cadets: As a school we were lucky enough to be invited to select 16 Year 10 students to take part in the one week Industrial Cadet Work Experience at Toyota Burnaston, Derby. Throughout the week students had to work in teams to build a number of prototype model cars, in a specific time limit. Students did Murray Park and themselves very proud and have now received a credited Silver Badge Award through the Industrial Cadet Scheme. As a result of another successful Toyota Industrial Cadet week Toyota have said they are now using Murray Park School as one of their partnership schools which is fantastic news.



Sky Sports: Athlete mentors Anthony Clarke, ex Olympian, World and Commonwealth Champion in badminton came into school to inspire students from all year groups and to work especially with our 'Run and Read' students.



World Skills Show event at NEC Birmingham: All Year 10 students were invited to attend the World Skills Show event to help them look at future Career Opportunities and ideas to support them with their next steps at 'Post 16'



Rolls Royce: We have had 2 Rolls Royce nuclear graduates supporting Year 11 students with Apprenticeship Opportunities and talking through the application process.

ACE Team continue to deliver One to One career interviews and a good number of students have been seen to support them with their next steps Post 16.

Art and Design Celebrate Remembrance Day 2016

Year 9 Art students taught by Mr Moore, Mrs Whittingham and Miss Allen produced an installation to mark Remembrance Day on 11th November. The display was hung in the Reception area. Positive comments were received from other staff and visitors to the school.



National Shakespeare Schools Festival

We are so proud of Drama club students in Years 7, 8 and 9 as they took part in the national Shakespeare Schools festival on Friday 18th November.

They performed a shortened version of The Tempest at Nottingham Arts theatre along with three Nottingham schools. Each school performed a different Shakespeare play and was supported by professional actors and the technical team from the theatre. We were treated to watch performances of Macbeth, As You Like It and Romeo and Juliet.

They performed confidently to a packed theatre full of supporters from all schools family and teachers.

Shakespeare
Schools Festival

Mid-Day Supervisor Vacancy

5 hours+50 mins per week term time only, January Start.

Mon-Fri 12-13:10pm each day

Application Form and Job Description can be downloaded from our website

www.murraypark.derby.sch.uk

or telephone 01332 515921/ext.2006

Previous experience preferred but not essential,
must be able to work on your own and as part of a team.

Have you got time to come into school to listen to our students read?

Can you spare 20 minutes a week?

Would you like to become a buddy reader?

If so please contact the school

Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable

Week 1 - Sports Hall/ACD

Mon 9 January	Tues 10 January	Weds 11 January	Thurs 12 January	Fri 13 January
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM
History 1 1hr 15 mins	Science 1hr 30 mins Triple Science X2 1hr	Textiles 1hr 30 mins Business St. 1hr 30min Music BTEC)	ICT 1hr Comp Sci 1hr	English Literature 2hr 15 mins
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Food 1hr 30 mins Graphics 2 hr PE 1hr 30 mins Statistics 2hr	English Language 1hr 30 mins	History 2 1hr 15 mins	Child Dev 1hr 30min Health & Soc 1hr 15 min IPD 1hr 30 min	Geography 1hr 45 mins

Week 2 - Cedar Park Hall unless otherwise stated

Mon 16 Jan	Tues 17 Jan	Weds 18 Jan	Thurs 19 Jan	Fri 20 Jan
AM	AM	AM	AM	ALL Day
Resistant Materials 2hrs	Music BTEC external exam 1hr	Catch up room 26	Art Art room 1	Photography IT2 & IT3
PM	PM	PM		
French Listening & Reading 1hr 30 mins	Catch up room 26	Catch up room 26		

Invigilating Exams at Murray Park School — Now recruiting

Exams are among the most important and stressful events in the life of any learner. That's why it's so important they are conducted in the correct way. Invigilators are crucial to this process.

We are looking for invigilators to help oversee our Mock and external exams. It is a part-time role during the exam seasons, but one that can make a real difference.

If you are reliable, punctual, flexible, able to relate to learners, firm but fair, stay calm in high pressure environment, and would like further information please contact the Exam Office Murray Park School

Tel: 01332 540024 or e-mail: exams@murraypark.derby.sch.uk

Rewards Update

Progress Rewards Stickers

These will continue in their current format for Year 7 to Year 9 with stickers being awarded to students who demonstrate progress. The new designs, created as part of a Community competition last year, are now being used. Students have been getting weekly updates about form totals with rewards for the top tutor group in each year. A 'certificate' system is still being arranged for Year 10 and Year 11 students so that they receive a certificate with their progress sticker outlining what they have done. Prizes will also be awarded on a regular basis so the more stickers the students log, the more chance they have of being the recipient of the prize.

Rewards Activities

Rewards activities will take place at the end of December and July. Those students with 95% or above attendance and no more than 2 pink referral forms will be given a letter inviting them to take part in an 'off-site' activity. This week students will be visiting Cinebowl in Uttoxeter and have had the choice of watching a film, ten pin bowling or ice skating. Other students have chosen to watch the Cinderella Pantomime at the Derby Arena.

Rewards Trips

Attendance % for the summer term rewards starts on the first day of next term starting January 4th 2017. Students will be made aware of the cut-off point for attendance - the date when the lists of those to be invited will be printed. Referral forms - for the purpose of the trips, all students start on 0 on the first day of next half term.

Key Dates: December 2016 - April 2017

	Date	Event
Autumn Term	Fri 16th December	Break up for Christmas
	Mon 19th and Tues 20th December	INSET Days
Spring Term	Weds 4th January 2017	Students return to school
	9th - 20th January	Y11 Mock Exams
	Tues 10th January	Y10 Parents' Evening
	Tues 17th January	Y11 BTEC Music Exam
	Thurs 2nd February	Y9 Industry Day
	Tues 7th February	Y10 CV Workshop and Y9 Options and Parents' Evening
	Thurs 9th February	Y10 Mock Interviews
	Fri 10th February	Y11 Meningitis Vaccinations and Break Up For Half Term
	Mon 20th February	INSET Day
	20th - 24th February	Y10 Health and Social Care Work Experience Week
	Tues 21st February	Students return to school
	Tues 7th March	Y8 Parents' Evening
	Thurs 30th March	Parents' Forum
	Fri 31st March	Y8 & Y9 Girls HPV Vaccinations
	Tues 4th April	Y7 Parents' Evening
	Fri 7th April	Break up for Easter
Mon 24th April	Students return to school	