



September 2011

Dear Family

I hope that you have enjoyed a good Summer break. We have recently had a super results day and students from each School in the partnership have enjoyed continued success. Full details of the results will be posted on the School website.

School resumes on Monday September 5th and I wanted to update you on some developments at School. On September 6th the Local Authority will make its decision on the future development of the two Schools. The Statutory notices period is now complete and the LA will make a decision on the proposed closure of Raincliffe and enlargement of Graham to create one enlarged Graham School. If they make that decision then the change would come into force in September 2012.

As you know the two Schools have worked very closely together over the last three years and we are now set up as one 'Upper School' on the Graham site and a 'Lower School' on the Raincliffe site. We already work as one staff and one School through our Federation partnership.

Over the summer break building plans and programmes have developed. The 'Path' between the two Schools now has planning consent which was held up by 'nesting birds'. We anticipate that it will be built by October half term. (A copy of the planned path is on the website.) In addition 'Access facilities will be improved on the Lower site and new toilets for boys and girls are being built, all for completion by half term.

Both sites have seen significant refurbishment over the holiday. At the Upper School the Art block has new ceilings and floors and the total upgrade of the rooms is now complete. There is a new Hair and Beauty room and a new Creative Media room. Both help us to extend the curriculum and opportunities we can offer to the students.

On the Lower site the new 'Theatre' Hall and the Dining Room has been painted and we have ordered new furniture for the Dining Room for half term delivery. The Hall is a first class flexible facility with top quality sound and lighting facilities. This will enhance the Performing Arts and provide flexible space for a range of School activities. The Lower site has also had a range of interactive technology installed e.g. in Science.

School Transport

We have been in discussion with the Local Authority and the Bus Companies over the last few weeks concerning issues raised by families. We have made some progress but have not resolved all of your issues. The majority of concerns related to buses from East and West Ayton.

The situation from Monday September 5th is that **Children in Years 9, 10 and 11 should catch a Scarborough and District bus to the Upper School site.** We have enclosed a copy of the updated timetable for Scarborough and District Buses (copies are also on the School website). The Local Authority has issued passes, **where families are eligible,** in exactly the same way as last year. **We expect both Companies to accept whichever pass the Local Authority has given you.**

The Local Authority, the Bus Companies and myself have planned to meet within the month to review transport including passes, timetables and routes. I would be happy to receive comments from families about any of these issues to inform that meeting. I appreciate your patience and support in this matter.

School routines

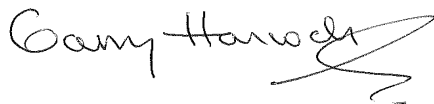
At the beginning of any term we have a sharp focus on standards including uniform and punctuality. We appreciate your support in these matters. The following points are areas for attention.

- Punctuality – We expect children to arrive at School for 8.35am. This ensures a sharp start at 8.40am.
- Uniform: Clip on ties are now part of Year 7 uniform and we have asked Rumours to only stock 'clip on ties from now. Students who currently have normal ties may continue to use them but we will replace them with 'clip ons' if they are not worn properly. The Year 11 ties will be distributed on the first day of term and are also clip on.
- 'Hoodies' are not to be worn to School.

We have included term dates for 2011-12 and will publish a full Calendar on the School website next week.

Your support throughout 2010-11 was fantastic and the students responded brilliantly to the rearrangements at the end of term. Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully



Garry Hancock
Headteacher

