



Rawmarsh Community School



Executive Headteacher: Helen O'Brien BSc. Hons.
Associate Headteacher: Matthew Turton BA.
Associate Deputy Headteacher: Mark Conlin BSc. Hons.

MTN/JRO

July 2019

Dear Parent

Arrangements for the last day of term - Friday 19th July 2019

The day will be as normal for periods 1 and 2. Break will be extended and will become lunchtime from 11:40 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Form Period will start at 12:20 p.m. and students will then be escorted off the school site at 12:30 p.m.

Celebrating some of our successes this academic year

Tanzania

As you will be aware, we have worked in partnership with Camps International to give our students an opportunity to participate in a once in a lifetime charitable visit to Tanzania. This is a very exciting time for both the students and the school and we wish them all the very best on this life changing venture that departs on 23rd July. As part of the trip students will complete:

- Traditional house building
- School improvement work
- Conservation work

We will be celebrating their successes upon their return on 20th August.

Effort and Attendance

This year 191 students had 100% attendance compared to 138 in the previous academic year. These additional 53 students are a clear example of the significance we place on attendance. Full attendance is the key factor if a student is not to underachieve – one day's absence means at least two days' lack of progress and we are proud to see the number of students with 100% attendance increasing. Our target for next year is to increase the number of students with 100% attendance further and ensure that whole school attendance is a significant priority. We know that, after our excellent students, our parent body is our school's biggest asset. Our parents prioritise the education of their children and know that, once a child gets behind, it is very difficult for them to catch up.

This year we have had 112 students ranked number 1 at every data collection across all our year groups. This is a substantial number and is synonymous with our high challenge, low fear culture that the students drive.

As you are aware good attendance and outstanding effort consummates excellent outcomes for students. We are very proud of the hard work and dedication our students have shown this year and we anticipate even greater accomplishments as we begin again in September. As of next year, all students who are ranked number 1 at each data collection will go into a draw for a cash prize that will be sent home with their data report. This is to continue to ensure that we recognise and reward the achievements of our hardest working students.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award gives students the opportunity to immerse in new experiences, improve existing skill sets and embrace challenges beyond everyday life. They build confidence, resilience, skills for work and friendship groups; and have a brilliant time doing it. The Duke of Edinburgh Awards can help young people carve out a better future. Colleges, universities and employers regard the award highly so it can help to open the right doors for students.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to grow at Rawmarsh with 150 students involved this year. 51 students, mainly from Y9, are working towards the Bronze Award and 99 from Y10 and Y11 working towards the Silver Award. Next year we are looking at increasing these numbers even further.

Movement Evening

This year was our 19th annual Movement Evening and I am proud to say that it continues to improve year on year. 94 of our students performed across many gymnastics and dance disciplines. We were also delighted to host Monkwood Primary School, Rosehill Junior School, and Ryecroft Infant School to ensure the evening continued to be a real community affair. There were a variety of outstanding performances showcased over 3 nights, including groups, duets and solos. Emma Bond and Chloe-Rose Monks performed an exceptional dance duet and Mia Billups and Dulcie Sweeting performed their breathtaking aerial silks performance. There were a number of amazing, confident solo dance performances from George Dovey, Alys Blood, Abbie Hellewell, Scarlett Birks, Isabelle Hetherington, Chloe-Rose Monks and Russell Taylor and 2 energetic Gymnastic routines, it to send every young

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person into the world able and qualified to play their part in it".



performed by Daisy Kirk and Alys Blood. We also had some musical interludes performed by our talented singers, Katie Whitlock, Emma Hughes and Bella Clarke. All of these young people are a credit to themselves and the school. Performing Arts will continue to be at the heart of this school and I look forward to watching all our talented students raise the bar yet again next year!

Little Shop of Horrors

In the last week of June, we put on our annual Performing Arts production. This year's offering was 'Little Shop of Horrors', which centres around a plant from outer space with a thirst for human blood. We had a cast of 30 talented students from all year groups. Such is the array of quality within our student body that the show had two casts to ensure we could demonstrate the sheer breadth of aptitude for performing arts. It was a fantastic week and I believe it was our finest performance! Performing Arts is a crucial part of our school and embodies everything about the Rawmarsh Way. I cannot wait to see the quality of our next musical 'Beauty and the Beast' in December!

Sporting Successes

This year we have had considerable success in sport. Our Year 7 boys were Rotherham Plate winners and the Year 7 girls' netball team were Rotherham Netball champions. Our school continues to have representatives at rounders' finals day and we wish our girls luck this coming Saturday. 5 of our students represented Rotherham at the South Yorkshire Athletics Championships and a further 5 students at the South Yorkshire Cross Country Championships. Sports Awards Evening was attended by over 200 students with over 40 awards presented during the evening. It was an amazing success with Amy Culshaw winning the prestigious Sports Personality Award. Ones to watch for the future include our winners of the Most Promising Newcomer in Amelia Longden and Charlie Jeffrey.

Messages for Parents and Students

Uniform

I wrote in April regarding changes to the school uniform and that after the summer holidays the Senior Leadership Team will be circulating and completing uniform checks. **All** students in incorrect uniform, including being without the new school trousers, are at risk of being sent home to change and making up the time after school. **Any** student refusing to adhere to our uniform policy is at risk of exclusion.

Our new Year 7 intake started with us on 24th June and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support with regard to the new uniform. A student in correct uniform is a student 'on message.' Our high expectations around uniform are clear and non-negotiable; **All** students are expected to wear correct uniform.

As a reminder:

Compulsory for all years from September 2019:

- All trousers or skirts will have the Wickersley Partnership Trust logo displayed on the upper part of the left leg and the Approved School Trouser stitch.

We are very grateful for parental support in all matters concerning uniform and hope that it will be worn with pride and a sense of belonging to both our school community and that of the Wickersley Partnership Trust.

Parent Governor

We value the feedback and support of the school community and we are always keen to enhance this. If you are interested in becoming involved, through a parent governor position, please email jrotheram@rawmarsh.org to express your interest.

Staff Leavers

We would like to offer our gratitude to staff members who are leaving Rawmarsh this year. The commitment, dedication and conscientious approach to support all of our students from Mrs Atkins, Miss Cawdron, Miss Harper, Mrs Hyslop, Miss Madden, Dr Morton, Mr Otley and Miss Saunders has been hugely appreciated and we wish them all well in their future endeavours.

We would also like to inform parents that the following staff joined us at rollover, Mrs Evans - Cover Supervisor, Mr Spruce - Geography, Miss Wiggett - MFL and Mrs Small who has now begun her role as Y7 Student Progress Manager. In September we welcome Miss Cobb – English/Drama, Mr Hammonds – English, Mrs Hodgson – Maths and Mrs Pearson - Maths

Student Safety

I would like to reaffirm what I sent in a recent letter regarding student safety around the site. Haugh Road is extremely busy before and after school, so any students drop offs need to happen well away from the school gates. In terms of the site itself, vehicle access is limited to parents with an appointment or those with prior access arrangements made.

MyEd

We introduced 'MyEd' over the last academic year. This is a free (Apple & Android) parent app that gives you direct access to your child's absence (including direct messaging to the Attendance Office regarding absence), timetable, absence records, achievements,

behaviour, academic data reports, ParentPay, and much more. From September, we will be using MyEd as our primary form of communication, so we encourage you to download it. Once downloaded, you simply need to select Rawmarsh Community School, put in your name and your mobile number and it will automatically link you to your children.

Reading Widely and Often

The summer holidays is the perfect time to rekindle a love for reading at home. On our website, you'll find a list of 20 top books to capture the imagination of young readers with time on their hands. To get a head start on the key topics for next year, we're also adding subject reading lists which have been carefully selected by Faculty Leaders to tie in with their schemes of work.

All of this, along with tips and advice on how best to support and inspire your child with reading and creative writing at home, can be found on the 'Reading Widely and Often' section of the RCS website.

Dates to Remember:

- GCSE results day - 22nd August 2019

Holiday	Last Day in School	Re-Open	Inset Days
		3rd September 2019	2nd September 2019
Half Term	25th October 2019	5th November 2019	4th November 2019
Christmas	20th December 2019	6th January 2020	24th February 2020
Half Term	14th February 2020	25th February 2020	19th June 2020
Easter	3rd April 2020	20th April 2020	20th July 2020
May Day	7th May 2020	11th May 2020	
Spring Bank	22nd May 2020	1st June 2020	
Summer	17th July 2020		

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a restful summer vacation period. For those families awaiting examination results, I wish you success. Students can do no more than their best and I am confident that ours have done just that.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Turton
Associate Headteacher