

To: All Parent/Carers

17 July 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

Re: End of the Academic Year

Well, we've finally arrived at the end of a busy year. So, we thought we'd send you a final letter for this academic year.

- 1) We had a great sports day organised by Mrs Church, Mr Taylor and the PE department and it was great to see students from all year groups getting involved in a range of activities, or simply cheering on their peers. I would like to congratulate Imogen in Year 8, who won the Victor Ludorum (Winner of the Games) cup.
- 2) Mr Taylor is standing down as Head of PE after 5 years of service in this role and we would like to thank him for his dedication and commitment to the role. We also look forward to welcoming Mr Edmunds as the new Head of PE from September 2024 and continue to elevate the school's sporting prowess.
- 3) It's been a busy term with many trips taking place, including our annual Year 9 Hautbois House residential, Year 11 residential to Balliol College in Oxford, Year 10 Art trip to Houghton Hall and a visit to the Warner Brothers Studio, to name but a few. We also had our first ski trip, since before Covid, to Tonales, Italy. This trip was so successful that we already have a full cohort going in 2025! Another first for several years was the school's musical, dance and drama performance, and it was wonderful to see the effort the students went to in their performances. It's already on the calendar for next year and definitely worth attending! Last week the Art department put on a spectacular Art Exhibition at the Forum in Norwich and after months of rehearsals we will be finishing our year with a Shakespeare Festival. Thank you to all our colleagues for taking the time to organise and arrange these amazing opportunities for our students.
- 4) A massive congratulations to our Year 7 girls football team who are the County Champions for 2024, beating Thorpe St Andrew 4-0. An amazing achievement and we hope for the same again from them next year.
- 5) Congratulations to those Year 10 and Year 11 students who have completed their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions this term. We have lots of students who have completed their full Bronze Award or are well on their way to achieving their Bronze or Silver Award.

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Healthy School

- 6) We have noticed that a number of students have failed to arrive at their afterschool detentions, choosing instead to be in IEU the following day. As a result, from September 2024, should a student fail to attend their afterschool detention they will spend the next day in IEU and the detention will be added on to the end of the day. Hopefully this will act as enough of a deterrent so that students attend their afterschool detention and do not miss valuable lesson time.
- 7) You should have received a reminder about uniform, and I wanted to reinforce this as we require parental support to ensure all our students come to school fully prepared to learn. We are trying to raise expectations in all aspects of school, and this includes how our young people present themselves. When we return in September 2024, we will be having our usual check on uniform; students may not be admitted to school if they are not in the correct uniform when they return.
- 8) We have a number of leavers to mention in this communication, so....

Mrs Atkins: Many parent/carers and past and present students will know what an excellent Maths teacher Mrs Atkins is. She is moving into the private sector with Norwich School and we wish to thank her for all her hard work and commitment towards Taverham High School and we wish her the best of luck for the future.

Mrs Chilvers: Our Catering Manager is retiring after years of service to the school. I've never met a Catering Manager who knows the students quite as well as Mrs Chilvers does. She has been an excellent colleague and a fine example to the students. We hope she can now enjoy her retirement.

Miss Eaton: Joined us in September 2023 but unfortunately had to leave the profession due to ongoing health issues. This was a shame as she was a good colleague and had the potential to be a great teacher. We wish her the best of luck for the future in whatever career she takes on.

Miss Gleghorn: Leaves us at the end of the year to find a new career. She is a good colleague and a good teacher, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Mr Linnell: As many of you will be aware, Mr Linnell was hit by a car in December 2021 and was in a coma for a number of weeks. This was followed by a number of months recovery and he was relentless in trying to get better and return to us, even though he was struggling with his health. Mr Linnell is not leaving us, but he is going to be working part-time and stepping down from his role as Head of Sixth Form. We thank him for all his hard work and dedication to ensuring the success of the Sixth Form and wish him all the best for the future. Mrs Robertson will continue Mr Linnell's fine work in making our Sixth Form a successful and popular place for our students to continue their education Post-16.

Mr Mitchell: Many parent/carers and past and present students will remember Mr Mitchell who left Taverham High School in May 2022. We never had the opportunity to thank Mr Mitchell for his hard work and commitment towards the school and the local community. He was a good colleague and a fine teacher. We wish him the best of luck for the future.

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Mr Tutte: Is one of the longest serving members of staff, having started in September of 1995 with many parent/carers remembering when they were taught by him! Mr Tutte has been instrumental in leading and supporting the Science department, as well as the Duke of Edinburgh programme for the school. He is an excellent colleague and a fine teacher, and we wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

Mr Yates: Has been with the school since September 2020 teaching Sociology and Health and Social Care. He has been an active member of the school and we would like to thank him for his hard work and commitment to the school and wider community. He is moving on to a new role at Paston College and we wish him the best of luck for the future.

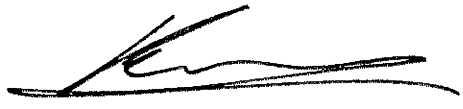
9) At the end of the year I will be moving on as Headteacher of Taverham High School and would like to thank everyone who has supported the changes I've brought into school. All data suggests that, on the whole, Taverham High School is calmer, safer and happier, where students now achieve their academic potential. We are also oversubscribed for Years 7, 8 and 9 next year, a testament to all the hard work of staff and support of parent/carers. In saying all that, Mr Yassin, who has been instrumental in these improvements, will be taking over as Headteacher from September 2024, working hard to ensure that students are actively involved in their education, both in the classroom and more widely. I know he will do an amazing job to continue to move the school in the direction of becoming one of the best schools in Norfolk.

That is enough for now, so on behalf of us, the staff and the Governors, we wish you all a great Summer and can't wait to see the students ready for the start of a new year on Wednesday 4 September 2024 (for Years 7, 11 and 12), followed by the whole school on Thursday 5 September 2024, ready for the Autumn term.

With best wishes



Mr Gareth Yassin
Headteacher Designate



Dr Roger L Harris
Headteacher