

27th September 2019

Dear Parents

One major event this week has been Open Evening for Year 7 entry to our Senior School which took place on Tuesday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who acted as guides. We collected feedback from visitors and there were so many positive comments about our students. Here is just one such comment: 'the tour guides were fabulous, efficient, outgoing and confident. The pupils were chatty, helpful and really proud of themselves and the school.' It is a real pleasure to hear such lovely feedback about our pupils.

There were of course many other things happening in school this week. The rest of 5H visited Moorlands Care Home on Thursday afternoon to share more of their favourite stories with the residents. Once again, the children proved themselves to be confident, charismatic and caring individuals who filled the room with fun and laughter. The care home staff commented that our visit is the resident's highlight of the week and they have been looking forward to meeting more Polam Pupil's since last Thursday. 5B are extremely excited for their upcoming visit; they will be reciting and performing poetry.



On Thursday the Under 15 Boys Tennis Team travelled up to Newcastle to play Royal Grammar School at Northumberland Tennis Club. Mr Wilkinson has sent me this report: *This was a fantastic experience for the boys and one they will remember for years to come following a quick stop off at the Angel of the North on the way home. The lads played some tough opposition and were beaten in the knock out round of the Regional Finals. The boys should be very proud to make it to such a high level of competition. Dan Buckle, Finn Gornall, Kian Charlton and George McAdam played in the match but Linus Bense also deserves a mention in helping the team reach these finals. Well done to all involved, from one very proud teacher.*
Mr Wilkinson



The Year 7 boys' football team played their first match in the Durham County Cup against Carmel College on Wednesday. The game was extremely close and the team put in a great performance. The final score was 3-1 to Carmel, although it could have gone either way. Blake Etherington scored a wonderful goal and Thianh Anh Diep received man of the match for his performance in goal. The squad included; George Alderson, Thienh Anh Diep, Ben Ward, Ben Mwason, Hayden Hayward, Seb Gummerson, Alex Wilkins, Answorth Adu, Blake Etherington, Freddie Hall, Finlay Gaines, Oliver Robinson and Brandon Boyle-Blair. There will be plenty more action coming up for the football teams, with two more games scheduled for next week.

On Wednesday our Under 13 rugby team travelled to Allen's West for a tournament against some difficult opposition in Carmel, Hummersknott, St Bedes and Egglecliffe. The boys competed well in all games showing great determination and team spirit. Mr Wilkinson wishes you all good luck in your next game against Teesside next week.



Last Friday, 20th September, Mrs. Dawson took the Art and Photography A Level students to Jervaulx Abbey for an afternoon of drawing and taking photographs. The weather was kind to them and they were able to get a lot of work done towards their final exhibition, which will take place in May next year.



Mrs Goodwin's Junior School Reading Challenge continues this week, with Mrs Mawson's class taking the lead. Mrs Squires has also announced the winner of this month's Creative Writing competition, which was won by Mia Jones.

Today, Interact organised a cake sale for the Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning and Mrs Jones tells me that they raised £65.80 in total. Many of the cakes were homemade by Interact members who took the chance to showcase their amazing baking skills! This also bodes well for the Great Polam Bake Off Interact would like to organise over the Autumn

Term. Interact have lots of new members this year which is fantastic to see. Thank you to everyone who helped organise today and donated!



I have one news item from earlier this term, when the Year 11 Geographers spent three very busy days in Blencathra in the Lake District doing their GCSE fieldwork. Out of those three days the one day that they spent on the coast was the wettest, windiest, coldest day of all! However they were true Geographers, collecting their data with a smile on their faces and working as a team. They were a credit to the school and should be very proud of themselves. They even made a friend (of the four legged-kind)!



Another busy –and very wet – week! I hope that the weather is somewhat better this weekend!

Best wishes

Kate Reid

In Miss Lawton's absence I don't have the names of the 4C Heroes this week – I will publish a fortnight's worth next Friday!

Senior School Top Six Housepoint Winners

Callum Boocock



Abigail Brown

Lily Edwards

Megan Crisp

Eleanor Bancroft

Fynlay Watson