

1 December 2009

Dear Parents/Guardian

As a long, very busy term and one tinged with great sadness draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity of thanking parents for their support. In particular we have been really grateful for the support shown over the last ten days following the very sad loss of Rhoda Baddon. She was an inspiration to so many and will be very sadly missed by pupils, staff and governors alike. We are planning some fundraising in Rhoda's memory and a memorial service. Please see details below.

The Year 7 Residential to Caythorpe Court in October was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. All Year 11 pupils completed a successful two week work placement earlier this term. There have been numerous activities including the Geography Field Trip and more recently Enterprise Week when pupils raised over £950.

Events before the end of term

Don't forget the SSA Bingo on **Monday 7 December at 7.30 pm** in the School Hall.

A number of rewards trips will take place during the next few weeks – including trips to Meadowhall and Xscape. The World War 1 Battlefields trip takes place from the **9 – 11 December** and a group of Year 10 and 11 pupils will visit the Clothes Show on **Tuesday 8 December**. The Lower School Ball (Years 7-9) will take place on **Friday 11 December** 7.30 -10.00 pm – tickets will be on sale shortly. The Year 11 Fashion Show in conjunction with Pride of Bride takes place on **Monday 14 December** – tickets are on sale at just £3. The Ski Trip Parents Evening is on **Wednesday 16 December** at 6.00 pm.

Xmas Lunch

The School Canteen will be offering a full Xmas lunch on Tuesday 15 December. The price of this meal to all pupils will be just £2.20. There will also be a vegetarian option offered. Exceptional value and a well balanced and tasty start to Christmas.

Change of Dates/Arrangements

Due to recent events The **School Concert** has been postponed to the Spring Term – we will notify parents of the new date in the new year. The **Upper School Presentation Evening** will now take place on Thursday 28 January – invitations will be sent out in early January. The **Careers Convention** for Year 9, 10 and 11 will take place on Wednesday 10 March.

School closes on Friday 18 December and most buses will leave Snaith School at **2.35 pm**, instead of 3.35 pm and pupils will arrive home correspondingly earlier. We will let you know if there are any changes to these arrangements.

Any pupil may stay in school until 3.45 pm, please let Miss Hill or myself know if you wish us to make these arrangements.

Uniform - we appreciate the efforts of parents in helping us to maintain a high standard of uniform. The vast majority of pupils are now wearing the correct uniform, however, for those parents who may be buying new uniform over the holidays can I ask that you do so in line with the uniform list (available from school). **Reminder – extremes of hairstyle (colour and cut) are not acceptable for school**

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Pupil Medication

Pupils who have to take medication during the school day may bring this in its original packaging to the Medical Room accompanied by a letter with instructions for use. The Medical Room staff will supervise the use of such medicines. Please ensure this is collected if your child ceases to need it. Any unclaimed medicines will be delivered to the local pharmacy for safe disposal.

Emergency closure plans

We are moving in to the time of year when the weather may cause a problem and in case we do need to close at very short notice all pupils should have their emergency closure plans in the back of their school planners – please make sure that you have discussed these plans with your child so they know exactly what the arrangements are. We will make any closure announcements via the Local Authority and Radio Humberside.

Equipment

An increasing number of pupils are coming to school without the correct equipment, as you can appreciate this does provide a problem for staff and the pupils themselves. It would be helpful if parents could ensure that pupils have the following equipment (Christmas gifts ideas perhaps?) - *Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Calculator, Homework Diary, Books for the day, Any Specialist Equipment e.g. PE kit or materials for Technology and Homework.*

The Home Access Programme

Home Access is the government programme which will help to ensure that more children in state education in England have access to technology at home to support learning. Following on from a successful pilot scheme in Suffolk this is now being rolled out across England. Low income families who meet the criteria can apply to a central body for a Home Access grant to purchase a computer and internet package from a range of approved suppliers. From January 2010 application forms will be available. We will notify parents when we get more details.

Memorial Service – Friday 8 January 2010

We are intending to hold a memorial service in celebration of the life of Rhoda Baddon at The Snaith School on Friday 8 January. The services for existing pupils will be during the school day but in the evening the service for parents, guardians, ex pupils and friends of the school will be held in Snaith Priory (time and details to be confirmed).

Fund Raising

In Mrs Baddon's memory there will be a number of fund raising events for Cancer Research UK during the rest of the school year. The first event is a non-uniform day for **pupils and staff** on Friday 18 December. The pupils and staff will be asked to pay £1 to donate to the charity.

Parents who bring their children to school by car

Once again I must ask for your cooperation when making arrangements to collect children at the end of the school day. It would be very helpful and safer if parents would not enter the school site until 3.45 pm. This will give the buses time to move off site. Several times parents cars have blocked the access of buses and in some cases parents have been extremely rude to school staff. We have very limited space and the safety of our pupils is our priority. Can I please ask that parents observe the one way system clearly marked at all times.

Whilst I can appreciate the difficulties of parking in the area outside the school, particularly with the new crossing in place, we have had a number of complaints from local residents (particularly on Marina Avenue) expressing concern that parents are blocking their driveways –please do not do this as it causes problems with our neighbours.

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Important dates for next term

Monday 4 January	Staff training day
Tuesday 5 January	Pupils return to school
	Year 11 Mock Examination Results Day
Tuesday 12 January	Poetry Evening (Roy Kibbler)- any profit will go to Cancer Research UK
Thursday 14 January	Year 7 Parents Evening
Tuesday 19 January	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 21 January	Thackray Museum trip
Thursday 28 January	Upper School Presentation Evening
Friday 29 January	Lower School Disco
Friday 5 February	Year 11 Dinner Dance
Wednesday 10 February	Year 11 Photos
Friday 12 – 20 February	Ski Trip
Friday 12 February	School closes

At the end of this newsletter please find the term dates for the rest of the school year.

The school profile can be viewed at <http://schoolsfinder.direct.gov.uk> and the school website on www.tss.eriding.net.

The Snaith School will, on request, provide this document in large print. If English is not your first language and you would like a translation of this document please contact the school.

On behalf of the pupils and staff of the Snaith School I would like to wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Yours sincerely

J D Pickerill
Headteacher

School Term Dates – 2009 - 2010

School Re-opens	Monday 2 November	School Closes	Friday 18 December
School Re-opens	Tuesday 5 January 2010	School Closes	Friday 12 February
School Re-opens	Monday 22 February	School Closes	Friday 26 March
School Re-opens	Tuesday 13 April	School Closes	Friday 28 May
School Re-opens	Monday 7 June	School Closes	Friday 23 July

School Closed, Bank Holiday – Monday 3 May 2010

Teacher Training Days	-	Monday 4 January 2010
Teacher Training Days	-	Monday 12 April 2010