

November 2010

Dear Parents/Guardian

As the Autumn term progresses I would like to take this opportunity of thanking parents for their continuing support this term. We have had many events and trips over the last few weeks.

The Year 7 Residential to Caythorpe Court was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. All Year 11 pupils completed a successful two week work placement. Our Year 11 Geographers went on a field trip to Whitby at the beginning of term and earlier this month it was Global Entrepreneurship week when pupils raised over £860 for Children in Need by organising and taking part in a wide range of Enterprise activities. We have had activities in the Library including the Scholastic Book Fair, held a very successful Open Evening when we showcased our school to next year's intake, an Options Fair (for Year 9 pupils and parents) and a College Fair for our older pupils. The range of visits offered by the school is a tribute to the time, interest and effort put in by all our staff over and above their duties, and I am sure parents would join me in thanking them for their hard work.

You will receive with this letter a booklet outlining the key school improvement priorities and giving the names of key staff and School Governors – more detail about the School Improvement process can also be found on the school website at [www.thesnaithschool.org.uk](http://www.thesnaithschool.org.uk).

The following events are planned over the weeks leading up to Christmas:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wednesday 1 December  | Athletics in Scunthorpe                                |
| Monday 6 December     | Xmas Bingo in the School Hall at 7.30 pm               |
| Tuesday 7 December    | Year 8 trip to Hull after school                       |
| Wednesday 8 December  | Clothes Show visit                                     |
| Thursday 9 December   | School Concert in the School Hall at 7.30 pm           |
| Friday 10 December    | Key Stage 3 Ball in the Sports Hall 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm |
| Wednesday 15 December | Year 9 trip to White Rose Shopping Centre after school |
| Thursday 16 December  | CHRISTMAS DINNER                                       |
| Tuesday 21 December   | School closes  |

We are again arranging a **Bags2School collection** so if you have any unwanted clothing, shoes, bags, bedding, curtains etc. please drop them off at school by **Monday 6 December**.

**School closes on Tuesday 21 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 3.35 pm if you are unable to make alternative arrangements, please inform Mrs Senior or myself if this is the case.

Just a reminder that we rely on parents to help out at the school discos. These are on the school calendar – support for the last one was very disappointing (many thanks to those parents who did make the effort) – the discos are enjoyed by over 350 pupils and it would be a real shame to have to cancel because of lack of parental support. If you can help please ring Carole O'Connor – your offers of help will be much appreciated.

### Interim Reports

Attainment and Achievement data is collected, collated and analysed periodically throughout the academic year to support a focus on pupil progress. As part of this process an Interim Report for all year groups will be sent home giving attainment and achievement data on 17 December.

This Interim Report will outline the following:

**Target National Curriculum level or GCSE, or equivalent, grade**

*The level/grade that your son/daughter is aiming for*

**Current attainment**

*The level/grade that your son/daughter is currently achieving*

**Projected Progress (years 7 – 9) Projected Grade (year 10)**

*A judgement on your son/daughter(s) likely progress over the remaining academic period*

**Attitude to Learning**

*A judgement on your son/daughter(s) application to their studies*

Further details as to the data provided will be included with the Interim Report

**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 and on the website). **Reminder – extremes of hairstyle (colour and cut) are not acceptable for school**

**Emergency closure plans** – We are moving in to the time of year when the weather may cause a problem. We have now had all the returns and pupils should have the 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 should an emergency closure happen. Should there be bad weather (or any other reason) that mean that the school cannot open we will make an announcement on Radio Humberside and aim to keep our website as up to date as possible with details.

**Equipment** – we are finding that 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.

**Mid Day Supervisor** – required on a permanent or casual/ supply basis further details available from Christine Slater on 01405 860327.

**Year 7 Questionnaire**

In response to the questionnaire Year 7 parents completed here are some of the things we have done in response/points of clarification.

- Pupils **are** allowed to wear their coats in winter/poor weather when moving from one building to the next – they **are not allowed** to wear them inside the buildings
- A list of the names of school governors is on the back of the School Improvement leaflet you should have received with this letter
- We have purchased a number of new lockers (we were short of lockers at the beginning of term) – all Year 7 pupils should now have a locker – please let us know if that is not the case.
- The idea of putting the timing of events on the school calendar was a great idea – we will do this next year when it is produced however, for the time being we will put the time of events on all newsletters and on the website

**School Transport**

If your son/daughter is entitled to free school transport either from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council or North Yorkshire Council, they must carry a valid bus pass. Failure to do so may mean that they will be charged a fee of £1 every time they travel on school transport. Replacement bus passes can be applied for:

North Yorkshire 01609 535671 or [www.nyschoolbus.info](http://www.nyschoolbus.info)

East Yorkshire 01482 395544

## **Applying for Free School Meals**

If you receive any of the following benefits free school meals are available for your child (ren):

- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credit (some restrictions)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- Guarantee element of state pension credit

Entitlement is kept as confidential as possible and pupils in receipt of free school meals simply show a pass at the dinner till daily. For further details please contact East Riding of Yorkshire Council or North Yorkshire County Council benefits section. A new funding element next year the "Pupil Premium" will be based on the number of pupils taking free school meals. It is therefore essential our data is up to date and that all our families receive their entitlement.

A reminder to parents/carers that unless your child is attending an organised activity such as the Youth Club or an event at the Sports Hall they should not be on the school site in the evenings or at weekends.

Finally another reminder about parents delivering and collecting pupils by car. We are very concerned about the numbers of cars on our site at the beginning and end of the day in particular when all the school buses are also present. We have a one way system and whilst the buses are loading and departing at 3.45 pm we cannot allow cars to move between them. These guidelines are in place to protect our pupils. Please respect the system and if you need to come with your car on site be aware that there are restrictions and it may take some time until you can depart. Thank you for your co-operation.

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.

Yours sincerely

**J D Pickerill**  
**Headteacher**

## **School Term Dates – 2010 - 2011**

School Closes Tuesday 21 December

School Re-opens Thursday 6 January 2011

School Re-opens Monday 28 February

School Re-opens Wednesday 4 May

School Re-opens Monday 6 June

School Closes Friday 18 February

School Closes Friday 15 April

School Closes Friday 27 May

School Closes Friday 22 July

Teacher Training Day - Monday 6 September 2010

Teacher Training Day - Friday 22 October 2010

Teacher Training Day - Wednesday 5 January 2011

Teacher Training Day - Tuesday 3 May 2011

Teacher Training Day - Monday 25 July 2011