



July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

We approach the end of the year and what a successful year it has been. All exams and assessments have been completed successfully. Our year 11's worked extremely hard for them and were supported amazingly well by our teachers. We are keeping everything crossed for results day in August. Saying goodbye to them was really hard, they have been an excellent year group for us. We had a lovely leavers assembly in early June, they all received their leavers year book and at the end of the exams had their prom at Sandburn Hall which was another great event.

You already know about our SIAMS inspection this half term. They looked at our ethos and our work as a church school and we were graded outstanding. We feel so proud of this outcome as our Christian foundation lies at the heart of everything that we do, we will continue to plan for and develop this aspect of our school life as we move forward.

We introduced a new celebration event for students in years 7 to 10 in June. Around 150 students were invited to be recognised for their great attitude to learning, or their consistent hard work in a subject area, or their contribution to extracurricular clubs etc. It was a very enjoyable evening, I hope that we are able to recognise more and more students for their hard work and effort in the future, we are blessed to have so many students who deserve recognition in this way.

We also had a celebration evening for our Young Leaders Award students in July. We were able to hear about the great work our students have done as part of this award, trying to "be the change they want to see." For us this award is really important, it is about developing our students as leaders by serving others in need within our local community and across the world. It was great to be able to celebrate their work at this evening event.

Our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) unit has moved from strength to strength this year. Their training culminated in a camp at Wathgill Barracks near Catterick in June and they had use of all the regular army facilities including rifle ranges, assault courses, ration packs and so on. They march everywhere and wear standard issue uniform, they really look the part. Many thanks to all the staff involved in that and well done to all our cadets.

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In this picture Miss Ralph who is leaving, is being helped by Mrs O'Neill using civil war artefacts loaned from the Royal Armouries, Leeds. Several Y7 classes have seen and used these in history lessons.

I know our year 9's thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Bewerley Park in July and there was another trip to Tenbury by the PE department. Our students enjoyed amazing success at the York District athletics finals in July with many long standing

school records being broken. Sports day was a great success also. Congratulations to all involved and many thanks to all our PE staff for running the huge amount of extracurricular sporting fixtures that they do throughout the year.

Science were involved in the Physics Olympics at St Peter's and the biology challenge.

Congratulations to our students who took part in those.

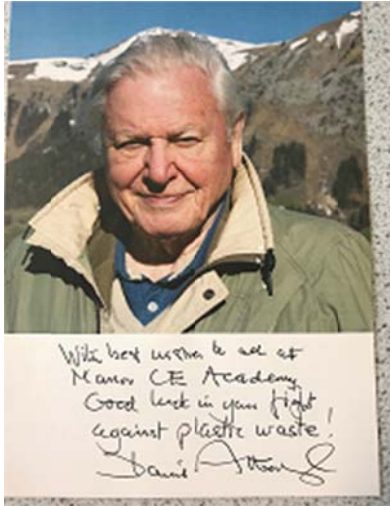
English organised a visit to the Shakespeare pop up Globe Theatre to see Macbeth in July, they saw an amazing performance.

The Art department had a very successful trip to London. It started the trip with a visit to Camden, then to the National Gallery and Tate Modern to see the work of artists they had been studying, then a sunset flight on the London Eye, a great experience. The highlight for many was the graffiti tour around Shoreditch seeing the work of Banksy and others, it was an inspirational trip for them all.

Our performing arts showcase last week was amazing. The quality of music, dance and drama seen was wonderful and to be able to do it in our wonderful Hive theatre makes it all the better. We have so many amazingly talented students! Our performing arts staff put an enormous amount into it and I would like to thank them for all they do for this event and for the clubs they run throughout the year.

This week we have a group of Year 10's in Taize as part of the Archbishop's Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage. Taize is a wonderful place and I know they will be having an amazing experience there. Please pray for them and for our school.

Many of you will have heard about the damage plastic waste is doing to our planet through programmes by David Attenborough and others. This term a group of staff and students have done assemblies and organised form tutor briefings to raise awareness and there is a very strong feeling by all that as a school we should do more to reduce our plastic waste. As a result, we have decided to make some changes. **Next year we would like all students to bring their own refillable drinks bottle to school each day.** It should be filled with water at home and sipped as required through the day, it can be refilled if required from our water fountains. **Plastic bottles will still be sold at break and lunch but they will not be allowed out of the lunchbox and they will be properly recycled each day.** We aim to source alternative drinks which don't come in plastic bottles moving forward. I know many of you will be really pleased we are taking this initiative, we even received a card from David Attenborough himself wishing us well.



This year we are saying goodbye to a number of teaching staff. Ms Metcalfe in English, Miss Kidd-Rossiter and Ms Barker in maths, Mr Johnson and Mr Black in science and Mr Kelly our Assistant principal who is going to be Director of Maths for the Hope Learning Trust, so we will still see Mr Kelly regularly. We also say goodbye to Mrs Church, Miss Ralph, Ms Baker, Ms Maxwell, Mr Wallace and Mrs Ciscewska from our support staff. All of these colleagues have done a huge amount for the students at our school and we owe them a great debt of gratitude. I would like to wish them well as they move on and very best wishes for the future.

In September we will have new colleagues joining us. Mr Metcalfe is joining English, he worked with us for a year in

2016-17 so is known to many students. Mr Jowett and Mr Sutherland are joining maths, Mr Pisonieri is joining science, Mr Hagan is joining RS, Mr Muskett is replacing Mr Kelly as Assistant Head for data and Ms Scaum is joining as Vice Principal to oversee our welfare team, she is moving from Vale of York Academy. We also have a number of support staff joining, Mr Amers as part of our CCF team, Ms Collins, Ms Bovington, Ms Bissett, Ms Sigsworth and Ms Xu as Teaching assistants and Ms Snow as science technician. I know all these colleagues will be great additions to our team and I am looking forward to welcoming them in September.

I do hope the entire Manor community has a wonderful summer holiday. Thanks for all that you do for us and for your great support of our school

Best regards,

Simon Barber