



Dear Parents and Carers

21 February 2018

I hope that you will all enjoy the amazing pictures of our Year 8's models of the Globe theatre. There has, for a long time, been growing evidence linking practical modelling and representative learning with faster progress and deeper learning. This is particularly widely used in Maths but I have seen several very effective applications in our English lessons this week with the models pictured below, Play Doh used to explore war poetry, and re-enactments of the death scene in Romeo and Juliet to great effect and intensity. After the success of last year's event we are all looking forward to the excitement of World Book Day again this year.

The ski trip to Courmayeur was a real success enjoyed by all and I would like to thank Mr Milner, Mr Leece, Mr Thorne and Mr Marshall for giving of their time to provide the boys taking part with such an experience. I would also like to thank you all for your support for our Southport Learning Partnership "Love My Community" project. We raised over £600 as a school and over £5,000 across all Southport schools for the Alzheimer's society.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Year 8 Recreating Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

Well done to all those boys in Year 8 who worked so hard over half term to create a masterpiece that Shakespeare himself would have been proud of. There were so many stunning entries created in a plethora of ways: from the ingenious repurposing of candles, Haribo tubs, hat boxes and toilet rolls aplenty to the technological creations using MineCraft and 3D Imaging Software. I am so proud of all the boys and the work that they put into their creations and thank you to parents for supporting them with their endeavours. Our overall winners are Joseph Mathias, Irfanul Haque, Harry Day and Jake Rimmer: your prizes will be delivered to you later in the week. All of you are winners in my eyes, however, and in the words of the bard himself, 'Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing.'

Mrs Follett



### World Book Day Extravaganza – 1 March 2018

The English Department are very excited to be gearing up for another day of celebrating the wonder of books ('a uniquely portable magic'). Year 7 and 8 will once again see their hard work on the Accelerated Reading Programme converted into Birkdale Pounds: Activity Pounds and Purchasing Pounds to be spent in an afternoon of wonderful book themed activities and games. Who will receive their Golden Tickets to choose from a range of exciting rewards on offer? Good luck to you all... and enjoy, reading really does pay off!

Mrs Follett

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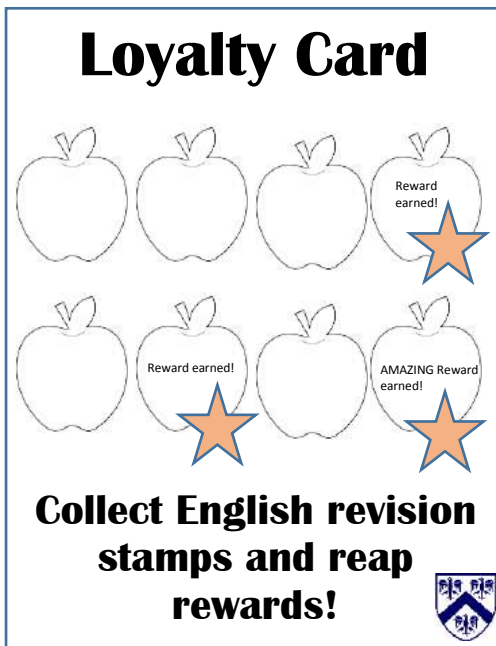
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## Year 11 English Revision Sessions

Following our targeted programme of English intervention, we are now opening up our Monday after school slot to all year 11 students. Each week there are three sessions on offer for students to choose from covering both English Literature and English Language. Please discuss the attached timetable of sessions with your son and guide him in choosing the most appropriate sessions. All students will be issued with a loyalty card and can achieve 'amazing' prizes when they have attended the required number of sessions.

Mrs Follett



Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 3.20 - 4.00	'Kamikaze' and how to compare Mr McCarthy U14	The Structure Question Mrs Broomfield G9	Descriptive Writing Mrs Keating Library
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 3.20 - 4.00	'Macbeth' Character analysis Miss Kelly U10	'A Christmas Carol' Character Analysis Miss Daly G13	Writing skills - vocabulary Mrs Follett U12
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 3.20- 4.00	'London' and how to compare Mr McCarthy U14	The Evaluation Question Mrs Broomfield G9	Leaflet Writing Mrs Keating Library
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 3.20 - 4.00	'Macbeth' Themes Miss Kelly U10	'A Christmas Carol' Themes Miss Daly G13	Viewpoint Writing: Developing a convincing argument Mrs Follett U12
<b>EASTER BREAK</b>			
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 3.20- 4.00	'Remains' and how to compare Mr McCarthy U14	The Synthesis Question (summarising two texts) Mrs Broomfield G9	Narrative Writing Mrs Keating Library
Monday 16th April 3.20- 4.00	'Macbeth' context Miss Kelly U10	'A Christmas Carol' context Miss Daly G13	Writing skills - varied punctuation Mrs Follett U12
Monday 23rd April 3.20 - 4.00	'Poppies' and how to compare Mr McCarthy U14	The comparing the writers' views Question Mrs Broomfield G9	Letter Writing Mrs Keating Library
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 3.20- 4.00	'Macbeth' exam technique Miss Kelly U10	'A Christmas Carol' themes Miss Daly G13	Writing skills - varying sentences Mrs Follett U12

## CAREERS VISIT TO EDGE HILL UNIVERSITY – 8 FEBRUARY 2018

On the 8<sup>th</sup> February a group of students from Years 8 and 9 went to Edge Hill University, Ormskirk for the day. The purpose of the visit was to find out more about higher education, what it involves, what you have to do to get to university as well as a chance to tour the campus and have a good look around at all the facilities. The day culminated in a quiz to find out how much the students had taken on board during the day. Of the 120 students there the boys from Birkdale won! Well done to *Tyler Hodge, Steven McIntosh, Lee Jones and Irfanul Haque*. A group of year 10 students are going to Edge Hill on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March for a similar kind of experience.

Miss Bailey

## YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING – THURSDAY 8 MARCH 2018

Year 7 Parents' evening will take place from 3.45pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Further information regarding how to access the online booking system will follow shortly.

Mrs Ellis

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## SKI COURSE 2018 – COURMAYEUR ITALY

34 pupils and 4 staff experienced yet another fantastic trip to Courmayeur, Italy during half term. Snow conditions were varied, challenging and highly rewarding and it was brilliant to see people begin/develop their skills on the slopes. As well as experiencing bright blue skies, thick powder and a little ice on the mountain during the 6 days skiing, pupils enjoyed swimming, bum boarding, ice skating as well as some shopping and a visit to a local pizzeria for their evening entertainment activities. Congratulations to all involved, especially to our 'walking wounded' who will hopefully fully recover quickly. Particular congratulations to our most improved skiers this year - Bradley Cole, who developed his skiing technique a great amount and Trystan Snellink, who went from complete beginner to skiing competently on red runs. Finally, congratulations to our skier of the year, Robert Watson, who not only developed his technique on the mountain, but was also a fantastic leader, supporter of others and all round great ambassador for the school. Well done Rob! It was a pleasure to lead the trip once again and my sincere gratitude goes to Mr Thorne, Mr Leece and Mr Marshall for giving up their entire half term and for constantly working to ensure that the trip was once again a fantastic success. Mr Milner



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### Ski Course 2019 - Italy

We still have limited places available for our next ski course to Pila, Italy during February half term of 2019. Details are included in this week's letter. No doubt now that pupils have returned from this year's trip and memories are shared with others, the remaining places will fill up very quickly so please ensure that reply slips are handed directly to Mr Milner as soon as possible. If places are still available, your son will then be asked to make payment via cheque or ParentPay to secure the place.

Mr Milner

### TOTAL RECALL SCIENCE QUIZ LEAGUE KS4

A reminder that the deadline for the latest set of quizzes is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. For Years 9, 10 and 11 these are Physics quizzes assigned by Mr Spallen. Good luck!

Ms Flood

### IMMUNISATIONS

A reminder to parents of Year 9 students that their son will be receiving their vaccination booster against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Meningitis ACWY this Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Any outstanding consent forms must be returned to school prior to this date. If you have any individual queries relating to the vaccinations, please contact the School Health Immunisation Team on 0151 247 6130. The team also recommend that boys eat some breakfast on the day, and as the injections are in the upper arm short sleeved shirts are helpful.

Mrs Donker

### HEAD LICE

We have had a report of one occurrence of head lice in school so, as a precaution, could parents check and treat if necessary.

Mrs Donker

### MERSEYSIDE POLICE – PEDAL CYCLE REGISTRATION

Merseyside Police have launched a bicycle registration scheme which aims to register as many bikes as possible so that in case of theft, bikes can be easily linked with their owners. Further details and a registration form are attached to this letter. Please complete the form and return to school by Wednesday 28 February 2018 if you would like to be involved in the scheme.

### BOS MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

The next production of the BOS Musical Theatre Company is a performance of 'Oklahoma!' at the Little Theatre in Southport during half term (Saturday 26 May to Saturday 2 June 2018). As a Committee they have noticed that their audiences are increasingly being made up of an older generation and they are keen to increase the numbers of their younger viewers in the hope of inspiring them to become avid theatre-goers of the future.

Yours faithfully

**Mr G Bourgade**  
**Headteacher**

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February 2018

**SKI COURSE 2019 (FEB HALF TERM - PILA, ITALY)**

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Following our return from another fantastic trip to Courmayeur during Feb half term, I am happy to inform you that we do still have limited places available for our next ski course to Pila, Italy during February half term 2019.

We have booked the resort of Pila, located in the Aosta valley in the North West of Italy. We have skied there as a school group a number of times and know the area and its facilities well. The ski company's infrastructure and organisation is very impressive, with the mountain providing superb conditions to learn to ski or to develop techniques as a competent skier. The evening entertainment facilities available to us, to fill the week with lots of fun things to do as well as mastering the mountain on skis, are also impressive.

The resort is suited to skiers of all abilities, with magnificent views sweeping the Alps, from Mont Blanc to Monte Rosa and the Matterhorn. There are 100 kms of perfectly maintained pistes, modern ski lifts, 250+ snow cannons (meaning superb snow-making) and a tempting mix of tree-lined runs and vast, wide, open spaces. The trip is open to all pupils in school, whether they have skied before or are complete beginners wishing to experience it for the first time.

The total cost of the trip is £1029 and will include the following: -

- Executive coach travel, from school to resort and return, including ferry crossing and road tolls
- 6 nights 3\* half-board accommodation in a modern hotel with private facilities in all rooms.
- 24 hours (6 x 4 hours) of instruction by fully qualified, English-speaking, Snowsport instructors.
- Fully supervised hot snack lunches at a choice of mountain restaurants (effectively full-board basis).
- Hire of top quality carving skis, boots, poles & helmets.
- Comprehensive winter sports insurance for all members of the party.

I must take this opportunity to stress that the price **does not** include ski clothing (which can be rented from the company or purchased at fairly low costs online and locally) or evening entertainment packages.

Payment will be by instalments according to the following schedule: -

- Initial (non refundable) deposit of £100 with returned reply slip or via ParentPay.
- Second (non refundable) deposit of £100 **by 25 March 2018**
- Third (non refundable) deposit of £100 **by 26 April 2018**
- Remaining balance of £729 **by 8 November 2018**

After the deposits are paid, you can obviously pay via instalments to suit you either via cheque or Parentpay (payment cards are available upon request). Please write 'Ski Trip ITALY 2019' and your son's name and form on the reverse of all cheques and return them directly to **me (not the school office)**.

If you would like your son to be included on the 2019 trip to Italy, please return the reply slip and initial deposit to me (in the Technology Dept) as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone or email ([azmilner@birkdalehigh.co.uk](mailto:azmilner@birkdalehigh.co.uk)).

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Milner (Ski Course Organiser)

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## REPLY SLIP: SKI COURSE 2019 – PILA, ITALY

**To Mr Milner, Ski Course Organiser, Birkdale High School.**

I would like my son \_\_\_\_\_ Form \_\_\_\_\_  
to be included on the 2019 ski trip to Pila, Italy.

Please circle the appropriate payment method below;

I enclose cheque for £100 (made payable to Birkdale High School).

I have paid the sum of £100 via ParentPay.

I understand that this initial (and subsequent) deposit is non-refundable if I choose to cancel his place and it cannot be filled by another pupil within school.

Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

Merseyside police are committed to reducing crime in your area and so I am writing to inform you about a new initiative we are delivering in the Southport area.

As you might know, theft within our community has always been a priority for your local policing team and in particular theft of pedal cycles. Theft of pedal cycles is unfortunately a common occurrence and simple measures can be taken to help prevent this crime, such as, strong bike locks attached to hard standing posts/railings and when the bike is kept at home leaving it secured and ideally hidden.

Over the Christmas period many children become owners of new pedal cycles and the risk of theft and loss becomes much greater. To help combat this we are offering a new initiative to help in the recovery and identification of stolen and lost bikes.

Our operation is aiming to register as many pedal cycles as possible within our internal system. All you will need to do is complete the form at the foot of this letter, entering your personal details along with the bikes details such as manufacturer, model and serial number. All these can be easily found on the bike itself. **The serial number is usually on the underneath of the bike chassis around the pedal hub.**

Once you have electronically completed the form attached with all the required details please return it via the included email below, or, if you'd prefer to print the form and fill it in by hand, you can return the form to your school by the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2018. We will then collect and collate all the forms and enter them onto our system. If for any reason you can't meet the deadline for the return of the forms, you can always bring them into Southport police Station on Albert Road addressed to myself once completed.

**Once the bike is registered within our system we are able to easily link the bike with its owner and if it were to be found it would be easily identifiable within our system. This saves time, increases the likelihood of a bike being found if stolen or lost and allows us to more effectively combat pedal bike theft within Southport.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the project!

Sincerely,

***PCSO 0390 CARR***

***Email [0390@merseyside.pnn.police.uk](mailto:0390@merseyside.pnn.police.uk)***



**PEDAL BIKE REGISTRATION**  
**FORM**  
**NORTH SEFTON COMMUNITY HUB**

First Name	
Surname	
Date of Birth	
Address	
Post Code	
Home Tel. Number	
Mobile Tel. Number	
Email Address	

Bike Make	
Bike Model	
Serial Number	
Main Colour	
Secondary Colour	
Modifications/ Identifying Features	